

POL 27

BIAFRA -NIGERIA

1967 June-July

STATE DEPARTMENT SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

☐ Retain class'n ☐ Change/classify to
☒ Declassify with concurrence of
EO 12958, 25X
EPC/HDR by Date 3/26/96

Withdrawal No.

0601

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND959503
By MM NARA Date 10/5/05

Pol 27 Biafra - Nigeria

Def 19-8 US - Nigeria

UNCLASSIFIED
 ADMITTED OFFICIAL USE
Classification

Q Pol 23-9 The Congo
X Dep 1945 - The Congo

JUL 19 7 26 PM '67

ACTION: Amembassy KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
Amembassy LAGOS IMMEDIATE
Amconsul ENUGU IMMEDIATE

INFO: Amembassy LONDON, Amconsul IBADAN, Amconsul KADUNA, CINCSTRIKE (IMMEDIATE)
STATE: 4022

To set record straight following the noon press briefing (excerpts of which are given below), the Department press officer later answered additional questions as follows:

Q: Did the Federal Military Government recently request arms from the U.S.?

A: Yes -- However, we were unable to accede to the request for arms. We have consistently pointed out to all Nigerian leaders that we regard the problem in Nigeria as a purely internal matter ~~xxxx~~ involving only Nigerians which must be solved by the Nigerians themselves. We further have stated to all Nigerian leaders our hope that they would resolve their problems peaceably. For this ~~xxxx~~ reason we deplore the advent of the fighting and hope that a means will be found to terminate it as ~~xx~~ soon as possible.

Q: Does the U. S. Government plan to give military aid to Nigeria?

A: We have not supplied any military items to Nigeria since 1964 and are not now ~~xxx~~ considering any such supply.

Background: The only ~~instance~~ of provision by the USG of military items to the Government of Nigeria took place several years ago when a small number of recoilless rifles and a small quantity of ammunition were sold to the Government of Nigeria. Deliveries of these items were completed in 1964.

DECLASSIFICATION DATE 6/14/76
 BY SP-5 F. Patrick OFFICE AFW
 FADRC FOI CASE NO. 620370-1

MICROFILMED BY RS/

Drafted by:

AF/P - Ruth J. Torrance:bec:7/10/67

Tal. Ext.	4544
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Telographic transmission and
classification approved by:

Nigerian Task Force - Mr. Melbourne
 AF/P...Mr...
 P...

Clearances:

~~XX~~

AFW - Mr Melbourne

AFCM - Mr. [REDACTED]

AF/P - Mr Stansbury

P/ON ~~xxx~~ - Mr. McCloskey

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FORM 8-65 DS-322

Classification

0602

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 950/503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

F780006-1061

Page 2 of telegram to Amembassy KINSHASA

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Classification

2. Following is transcript from noon briefing (unessential words omitted)

Q: Yesterday, State Department said United States has consistently supported territorial integrity and unity of Congo. Do we also have similar policy attitude in regard to Nigeria?

A: Sure. We are concerned by those developments in Nigeria, and hope two sides will act promptly to bring fighting to halt.

Q: Have there been any similar requests from Nigeria to ones you received from Congo for assistance?

A: I am in no position to comment on that at this time.

Q: When do you think you might be able to comment?

A: I will let you know. I ~~afford~~ off hand can't tell you at this point.

Q: You did say American policy regarding territorial integrity of Nigeria is as it is in the Congo -- is that correct?

A: What I said was we hope two sides will take necessary steps to end fighting. We are seriously concerned about this outbreak.

Q: I think question was directed at possible political separation. In that context I will re-raise question.

A: Now I think these two situations are different. One is internal situation, and I don't want to be drawn into commenting on that specifically.

In case of Congo, you have had mercenary force composed of outside nationals leading what, in effect, is mutiny against central government.

Q: Would this also apply to two previous instances when we came to support of central ~~government~~ government in Congo -- would this distinction be made?

A: I mean we are ~~distinguishing~~ distinguishing between existing situations here.

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Classification

0603

F7C0006-1062

Page ~~4~~ 3 of telegram to Amembassy KINSHASA

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Now, in past, when we have assisted Congo similarly, I think it was in 1964, Tshombe was in power. So that it's not case of ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ necessarily choosing sides. We took what action we thought was necessary with response to request.

Q: Bob, I would like to be more direct on question, because of implication left by your answer to first query: Does United States oppose rebellion of declared State of Biafra? Is that what you are saying?

A: We have not taken position on that. That is internal matter within country of Nigeria.

We do deplore outbreak of fighting.

Q: Do you have any reports of extent of fighting now in Nigeria?

A: Nothing other than what is generally represented ~~by~~ by press reporting out of there. Fighting has been confined to ~~XXXXX~~ areas within few miles of northern border of eastern Nigeria. But I would have to stress that we have only fragmentary reports. I understand all Americans have been withdrawn from areas of military operations, including area around Nsukka. And we would be prepared, if ~~XXXXX~~ necessary, to take further ~~XXXXXX~~ measures for safety of American citizens, in whatever part of Nigeria.

Q: In saying fighting is confined to just few miles over border, does this mean then you have nothing to substantiate Federal Government's claims of deep penetration in eastern Territory?

A: It means I have given you as much information as I was able to obtain.

Q: If Federal Government of Nigeria would request aid, would our policy in Congo set precedent for our decision, or any kind of guideline for our decision?

A: I will answer that question for you when I'm ~~XXXXXX~~ better briefed.

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FORM DS-322A
8-63
CONTINUATION SHEET

0604

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VMD 954503
By MWA Date 10/5/05

F780006-1063

Page 4 of telegram to Amembassy KINSHASA

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Q: Are our planes -- planes we sent there going to be ~~px~~ piloted by U. S. pilots?

Q: Sent ~~xx~~ where? Congo?

Q: In Congo; the three C-130's.

A: Yes, as I understand it, they have American crews. I think Defense provided all detailed information on numbers, composition of crews, security forces attached to them, yesterday, following our announcement they would be sent.

Q: Will they carry out military operations in the Congo?

A: No; they will not. This is non-combatant operation, so far as United States is concerned. Planes are to be used in assisting central government transport its forces as it ^{seems} ~~seems~~ appropriate.

Q: Bob, is State Department ~~xx~~ still in touch with its man at Enugu?

A: Yes.. Enugu is in eastern region of Nigeria -- our consulate remains in operation there.

Q: We are getting daily ~~xxpx~~ reports then?

A: Well, I am not aware there has been any breakdown or interruption in communications. How often he is reporting is something I can't say without checking.

Q: Do you foresee a need for further evacuation of Americans from Congo, and would the three transports be available for that use?

A: Well, they are not designed for that purpose. But I don't want to rule out all contingencies. We have evacuated Americans from Bukavu. Those who it was considered necessary to evacuate. I told you before that unofficial people were taken to Kigali and official Americans from ~~Mx~~ Bukavu have gone to Kinshasa.

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8-63
CONTINUATION SHEET

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Authority VND 954503
By MNA Date 10/5/03

F700000-1064

Page 5 of telegram to Amembassy KINSHASA

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Classification

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They were evacuated in American Embassy plane. These C-130's are there for separate purpose but under direction of American Ambassador.

Q: But consul remained in Bukavu, didn't he?

A: He was there. But I think, today, he is not. And I think he is, in effect, left to his own discretion as to whether, and ~~xx~~ when, it will be necessary for him to return.

Q: Where would he go if he is not there?

across

A: He was in Kamembe/~~xxxxxx~~ the border in Rwanda.

Q: What's his name ~~xx~~ again?

A: Crigler.

END

RUSK

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FORM DS-322A
8-63
CONTINUATION SHEET

0606

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VMD954503
By MVA Date 10/5/00

37-
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE AND RESEARCH

CONFIDENTIAL

*Intelligence
Note* - 578

July 10, 1967

To : The Secretary
Through: S/S
From : INR - Thomas L. Hughes *tlw*
Subject: Cash-and-Carry Bombers--the Biafran Example

Combat aircraft can be bought in Europe, on short notice, with ease. In Africa, where the ready availability of lesser weapons--rifles, mortars, machine guns--has already been a factor of instability, a few military aircraft and mercenary air crews can change drastically the realities of power. The B-26 purchased and used by the unrecognized government of Biafra to defend its secession against Nigerian Federal troops provides a concrete example. Though the B-26 is probably not tipping the scale in this particular case--Biafra apparently had a fairly good defensive force without it--it is a major addition to the Biafran forces. More B-26's are reported on their way to Biafra.

Short History of B-26 N-12756. The B-26 that carried out three combat missions against Nigerian troops on July 8 was sold by the French Air Force to a Luxembourg trading company. Without registering the plane as a civil aircraft, the company sold it to an American citizen living in Luxembourg. He registered it on October 13, 1966, with the US Federal Aviation Agency (FAA). An airworthiness certificate was never issued by FAA, however, because the necessary inspections had not been completed--perhaps because the plane had not been demilitarized. The American hired a Belgian pilot, who once worked

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3
This report was produced by the Bureau of Intelligence and Research. Aside from normal substantive exchange with other agencies at the working level, it has not been coordinated elsewhere.

GROUP 3
ungraded at 12 year
interval; not
automatically declassified

POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

XC DEF 12-5 BIAFRA

0607

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By: MNA Date: 10/5/03

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- 2 -

for Tshombe in Katanga, to fly it to Lisbon June 26, 1967, purportedly under an air ferry permit issued by FAA. The plane was bought in Lisbon by a man believed to be French for spot cash. On June 29 the B-26 arrived in Biafra.

Uncontrolled Mutinies. This aircraft was of special interest because it was made in the US. If it had been for sale in this country, it would have been subject to export control. A privately owned military aircraft cannot leave the US without an export license or a "temporary sojourn" permit. The Department's Office of Munitions Control and the US Customs jointly administer these controls. However, anyone having the money is unlikely to encounter serious difficulty in buying US equipment, given the large quantity abroad, and having it delivered almost anywhere.

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0608

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Authority	VND959503
By	MM NARA Date 10/5/05

66

104 37 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

SECRET/NOFORN

Classification

000000

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JUL 11 4 53 PM '67

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

PRIORITY

Info:

STATE 3863

NOFORN

Department notes with concern report (see ANL 172) that FMG may be considering commandeering American-owned aircraft for military purposes. Request report including appropriateness of attempts to counter this possibility.

END

RUSK

2

NIGERIAN TASK FORCE

Drafted by:

AFW:MTLofimer:11

2946

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

AFW:RM Melbourne

Clearances:

AL:TW Williams (substance)
L/AF:CHGustafson (info)

SECRET/NOFORN

Classification

FORM DS-322
8-65

0609

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VMD954503
By MVA Date 10/5/03

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

DEF 19.8 US-NIGERIA

CONFIDENTIAL

POL 2.7 BIAFRA - NIGERIA

Action

SS

Info

RVZCZCDIA228
PP RUEHC RUTALS
DE RUEHDT 146 1912250
ZNY CCCCC
P 102215Z JUL 67
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO RUTALS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
STATE GRNC
BT
CONFIDENTIAL USUN 146

LIMDIS

RE: NIGERIA

IYALLA (NIGERIA) SOUGHT MTG WITH FINGER TO URGE US HELP BY PROVIDING AIRCRAFT TO NIGERIAN GOVT FOR USE IN PUTTING DOWN SECESSION. HE REFERRED TO A GOWAN LETTER TO US REQUESTING MILITARY EQUIPMENT AID AND SAID HE THOUGHT TACTIC MIGHT HAVE BEEN CLUMSY. (PROTECT SOURCE.) HE WONDERED WHETHER US REFUSED BECAUSE IT RESENTED FORM OF REQUEST OR FOR OTHER REASONS.

IYALLA POINTED OUT US PROVIDING THREE C-130S TO GDRC TO HELP PUT DOWN REBELLION IN EASTERN CONGO; NIGERIANS WONDER WHETHER US DOES NOT CONSIDER GON AS GOOD A FRIEND AS GDRC. ARGUED THIS IS GUT ISSUE FOR GON AND US SHOULD WEIGH MOST CAREFULLY.

FINGER SAID HE NOT AWARE OF GOWON REQUEST BUT WOULD CONVEY IYALLA'S REMARKS TO DEPT.

REQUEST GUIDANCE ON REPLY TO IYALLA.

GP-4.

GOLDBERG
BT

XR
DEF 19.8 US-THE CONGO
1967 JUL 10 PM 6 50

ref 19.8 US-Nigeria
XR
ref 19.8 US-Congo

USUN 146
7-10-67

CONFIDENTIAL

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0610

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND959503
By MNA Date 10/5/03

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State* POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

SECRET

DEFENSE DEPT.

7-10-67

85

Action

AF-6

Info

SS-25

GPM-3

INK-7

OPR-1

RSR-1

RSC-1

48

PP RUEDNKA RUEDPSA RUEHC RUEPIA RUEPJS RUEPWD
DE RUTALS 292CC 1911745
ZNY SSSSS
P R 101720Z JUL 67 ZFG
FM USDAO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO RUEPJS/DIA
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
RUEDPSA/CINCSRIKE
RUEDNKA/CINCLANT
INFO RUEPIA/CIA WASHDC
RUEPWD/DA
DA GRNC
BT

008688

1967 JUL 11 AM 10 10

SECRET 0279 JULY 67. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL CONFRONTATION. DIA FOR
DIACO. CINCSRIKE FOR STRJ2-C. DA FOR ACSI.
1. SOURCES FOLLOWING INFORMATION SENIOR EXPAT AND NIGERIAN
OFFICIALS NIGERIA POLICE; STAFF OFFICERS HQ NIGERIAN ARMY;
UK DEFENSE ADVISE JUJ* EXPAT HARBOR MASTER LAGOS; SEVERAL EMBASSY
LAGOS OFFICERS; AND NIGERIAN CIVIL AND MIL OFFICIALS IKEJA
AIRPORT; AND US COMMERCIAL NATIONALS.
2. MILITARY ACTION INITIATED THURSDAY 06 JULY APPROX 0500
LOCAL TIME NOW IN FIFTH DAY WITHOUT CLEAR INDICATION TREND
OF STRUGGLE. TODAY, DESPITE FACT ALL NIGERIAN OFFICES BACK
ON NORMAL WORK SCHEDULE, DEARTH OF FIRM INFORMATION CONTINUES.
DATT TALKED TWICE TODAY TO MEMBER SUPREME MIL COUNCIL (SMC)
(ONCE EARLY THIS MORNING PRIOR NORMAL TFA AM MEETING SMC;
AND ONCE EARLY THIS AFTERNOON AFTER MEETING WHICH LASTED OVER
THREE HOURS) AND WITH REGARDS COLD, HARD DETAILS MIL SITUATION
ON FRONT, HIS INFORMATION CONSPICUOUSLY LACKING IN DETAIL.
AS INDICATED YESTERDAY, SOURCE ADMITTED, FRANKLY, FMG
COMMUNICATIONS FROM FRONT TO HQ LAGOS JUST NOT DOING JOB
KEEPING LAGOS INFORMED IN ACCURATE, TIMELY FASHION. DATT
PRESSED HARD ON THIS ONE (AND SUBSEQUENTLY DID SAME WHEN
TALKING ARMY SOURCES LAGOS AREA) AND, AS RESULT SEARCHING

PAGE 2 RUTALS 292CC SECRET
QUESTIONS, IS JUST ABOUT CONVINCED FMG MIL ACTION NOT BEING
DIRECTED FROM LAGOS BUT, RATHER, FROM MAKURDI AND/OR OTURKPO
WITH SITREP TYPE INFO BEING REPORTED TO LAGOS FOR INFOR FMG
AND ARMY HQ. DATT WILL KEEP CLOSE WATCH ON THIS AND ATTEMPT
CONFIRM SUSPICION ALONG THIS LINE, BUT AT PRESENT DATT
BELIEVES THIS MOST LIKELY EXPLANATION OF COMMAND ACEN CONTROL
STRUCTURE FOR FMG CAMPAIGN. IT JUST DOES NOT SEEM PROBABLE

SECRET

1

0611

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VMD 954503
By MNA Date 10/5/03

SECRET

-2-USDAO LAGOS 0279 JULY 11, 1967

THAT FMG CAMPAIGN BEING DIRECTED FROM LAGOS HQ IF INFORMATION AVAILABLE HERE IS AS LATE AND AS SCARCE AS IT APPEARS BE.
3. WITH REGARDS TO OB RPT OB FROM FRONT, SITUATION APPEARS AS FOLLOWS:

A. FIGHTING CONTINUES FOR NSUKKA WITH QUESTION AS TO ACTUAL STATUS. FMG CLAIMS IT HAS HAD NSUKKA SURROUNDED SINCE LATE YESTERDAY AND THAT IT EXPECTS FALL NSUKKA "ANY TIME NOW". ON OTHER HAND, EASTERN SOURCES INDICATE SITUATION CONTINUES "TENSE" AT NSUKKA BUT THAT IT STILL HOLDS AND HAS ACCESS TO AREA. AS BEST CAN BE DETERMINED, FMG HAS COMMITTED THREE BNS THIS AREA WITH POSSIBLE ONE BN REINFORCED OPERATING IN NSUKKA AREA AND TWO BNS PRESSURING TOWARD OBOLA FROM DIRECTION OTUKPA ON ROAD FROM OTURKPO. EASTERN FORCES DEFENDING IN AREA ARE COMMANDED BY BRIGADE, POSSIBLE 53D BRIGADE, AND PROBABLY HAS AT LEAST THREE BNS COMMITTED DEFENSE OF AREA.

PAGE 3 RUTALS 292CC S E C R E T

B. ON OBUDO FRONT, MOST EVIDENCE NOW AVAILABLE SEEMS INDICATE FMG HAS SEIZED CONTRL THIS AREA. UNCERTAIN HOW MANY BNS COMMITTED ON FMG SIDE, ITS KNOWN AT LEAST FOUR HAD BEEN AVAILABLE FOR FIRST PHASE EMPLOYMENT OBUDO TO OGOJA AREA. FROM SLOWNESS ACTION, IT DIFFICULT BELIEVE FMG HAS COMMITTED TWO BNS EACH AT OBUDO AND OGOJA AREAS. MORE LIKELY, FROM EXTREMELY SLOW PROGRESS CAMPAIGN THIS AREA, SINGLE BN COMMITTED ATTACK EACH AREA. IF THIS SO (AND THIS ONLY ROUGHEST FORM SPECULATION FMG HAS DIVERTED ONE OR MORE BNS TO NSUKKA FRONT IS TURE, ON OTHER HAND, IF THESE BNS NOT RECOMMITTED NSUKKA FRONT, WE MUST KEEP EYES PEELED FOR THEIR APPEARANCE SOMEWHERE ELSE ALONG LINE. ON PURELY SPECULATIVE BASIS, IF THIS OR ANOTHER FORCE HAD MOVED SOUTH TOWARD GENERAL DIRECTION IKOM AND CALABAR ON FOOT AT TIME HOSTILITIES LAUNCHED EARLY ON 06 JULY, IT COULD WELL HAVE COVERED APPROX SIXTY PLUS MILES TO IKOM/MAMFE ROAD BY NOW. AGAIN, THIS SPECULATION, BUT WITH DEARTH INFO AVAILABLE ALL POSSIBILITIES BEING CONSIDERED SO THAT POSSIBLE EVENTS DO NOT COME AS COMPLETE SURPRISE.

PAGE 4 RUTALS 292CC S E C R E T

C. NO SIGNS AS YET ACTUAL MIL ACTION ANYWHERE SOURHTERN COG AREAS. PREPARATIONS CONTINUE ON FMG SIDE, HOWEVER, FOR SOME FORM INVASION FROM SOUTH. IN ADDITION TO NIGERIAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINES VESSEL "KING JAJA", REFERRED TO MSG OF YESTERDAY, TWO ELDER DEMPSTER VESSELS IN HARBOR ONE OR BOTH OF WHICH MAY BE TABBED FOR TROOPS CARRIER TO COR AREAS. DAO OFFICER LEARNED

SECRET

0612

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Authority	VND959503
By	MMNARA Date 10/5/05

SECRET

-3-LAGOS USDAO 0279 JULY 11, 1967

THIS AFTERNOON THAT PAN AFRICAN DC-6 WILL COMMENCE 54000 POUND CHARTER FLIGHT FOR FMG ON TUESDAY 11 JULY. CARGO IS MIL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FROM KANO TO LAGOS. DATT DATT SURMISES THIS SMALL ARMS, AMMO AND RELATED EQUIPMENT FOR FORCE BEING CONSITUED FOR ACTION COR AREAS. BELIEF IS THREE DC-6 LOADS INVOLVED. WILL ATTEMPT DETERMINE NATURE CARGO WHEN IT STARTS ARRIVING LAGOS TOMORROW.

4. ON AFTERNOON 10 JULY, DAOMAP OFFICER AND VISITING CINCSRIKE OFFICER WERE AT IKEJA AIRPORT WHEN TWO DC3'S NIGERIA AIR FORCE ARRIVED FROM TRIP MAKURDI WHERE THEY HAD BEEN ON AMMO DELIVERY RUN WHICH HAS CONTINUED SINCE 08 JULY WHEN FMG FORCES IN AREA RAN SHORT RESERVE SMORTAR AND 106 ARTY AMMO. AS PLANES OVER ONE HOUR LATE ARRIVING, GREAT CONSTERNATION IN EVIDENCE AT AIRPORT ON PART FMG MIL OFFICER ON SCENE. WHEN PLANES DID

PAGE 5 RUTALS 292CC S E C R E T

ARRIVE STORY FROM THOSE ABOARD WAS THAT THEY HAD BEEN ON STRIP AT MAKURDI APPROX NOON LOCAL TIME WHEN THEY WERE QUOTE STRAFED UNQUOTE BY B26. BOTH OFFICERS SAW PLANES TAXI IN TO TARMAC AND COULD SEE NO EVIDENCE DAMAGE EITHER PLANE; NEITHER OFFICER HAS ANY DOUBT, HOWEVER, THAT STRAFING RUN WAS, IN FACT, MADE AT PLANE. BOTH OFFICERS ALSO SAW SEVERAL LORY LOADS 105 MM ARTY ROUNDS AWAITING LOADING ON TO PLANES FOR ANOTHER RUN (PRESUMABLY TO MAKURDI). CIVIL AIR ATTACHE, AMEMBASSY, WAS TOLD BY BRITISH SOURCE TODAY THAT B26 OPERATING IN EAST APPEARS HAVE MULTIPLE CANNON MOUNT (POSSIBLE 20 OR 40MM) ON IT IN ADDITION TO 50 CALIBER MACHINE GUN MOUNTS.

5. SOURCE IN ARMY G2 OFFICE CLAIMED THAT EAST WAS USING ONE OF ITS EXPAT PILOTED HELICOPTERS IN FMG REAR AREAS IN ATTEMPT DISRUPT COMMUNICATIONS. SEVERAL REPORTS OF CHOPPER PUTTING DOWN IN AREAS LIKELY COMMUNICATIONS LINES.

GP-3.

BT

NOTE: ADVANCE DELIVERY TO S/S-O 7/11/67 4:55PM

* AS RECEIVED

SECRET

0613

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 954503
By	MVA
Date	10/5/05

15

POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
VL SOC 3 RED CROSS

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

4. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Action
TO NNNNVZCZCFHA576
RR RUEHC RUEHDT RUTALS
Info DE RUFHGV 112 1921032
ZNY CCCCC
SS R 111028Z JUL 67
GPR FM USMISSION GENEVA
SF TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO RUTALS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS
SAH RUEHDT/USIN
L STATE GRNC
H BT
AF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 112
P
USIA SUBJ: ICRC AND NIGERIAN CRISIS
NSC
INR
CIA
NSA
EOD
AID
SR
ORM
SCA
SCS
RSR
RSC

1. ICRC INFORMS MISSION ITS REPRESENTATIVE IN LAGOS, WHO HAS RECENTLY VISITED ENEGU, HAS RELAYED REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE FROM BOTH LAGOS AND ENEGU BRANCHES NIGERIAN RED CROSS. ICRC REP POINTED OUT NIGERIAN HEAD HEALTH AND SANITARY SERVICES (PETERS) "GOOD MAN" BUT RELATIVELY INEXPERIENCED AND NEEDS HELP. ICRC DISPOSED PROVIDE TWO MEDICAL-SURGICAL TEAMS (ONE FOR EACH SIDE) AT COST SF 30,000 PER MONTH IF FINANCING CAN BE ARRANGED.

F

2. ICRC HAS CABLED ABOVE INFORMATION TO AMERICAN RC, ASKING IF FOUNDATION ASSISTANCE (POSSIBLY FROM A DIRECT RELIEF ORGANIZATION IN SANTA BARBARA) MIGHT BE OBTAINED.

3. IN VIEW POSSIBILITY CRISIS WILL ABATE SHORTLY, ICRC DOES NOT NOW INTEND ISSUE GENERAL APPEAL TO RC SOCIETIES FOR CONTRIBUTIONS. TUBBY
BT

008335
1967 JUL 11 AM 7 55
7-11 67
GENEVA-112

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0614

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND959503
By MNA Date 10/5/05

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

SECRET

DEFENSE DEPT. 7-11-67

90
Action

AF-6

Info

SS-25

GPM-3

SP-1

SC-1

EUR-8

DAAR-7

AID-10

ACDA-7

MC-1

GDP-1

OPR-1

(R/R) 1

72

NNNNVZCZCEIB801TAA361
PP RUEHC
DE RUTALS 332CC 1921730
ZNY SSSSS
P R 111710Z JUL 67
FM USDAO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO RUEPJS/DIA
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
RUEDPSA/CINCSRIKE
RUEDNKA/CINCLANT
INFO RUEPIA/CIA WASHDC
RUEPWD/DA
DA GRNC

1967 JUL 11 PM 5 17

009055

SECRET 0281 JULY 67. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL SITUATION.

1. AVAILABILITY INFORMATION WHICH WOULD INDICATE FMG MAKING
ANY SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS STILL HARD COME BY DESPITE FREQUENT
CONTACTS SUPREME MIL COUNCIL FIGURES DURING DAY. BELIEF
EXPRESSED YESTERDAYS MSG THAT OPERATIONS BEING CONDUCTED FROM
KADUNA AND/OR MADURDI PERSISTS AND, IN FACT,

BY REMARKYRXQQZEMETR[★] SMC WHO, IN ATTEMPTING EXPLAIN LACK
INFORMATION, SAID QUOTE THIS INFORMATION (I AM GIVING YOU)
BASED ON SITUATION AS WE KNEW IT YESTERDAY. WE HAVE NOT YET
HAD DISPATCHES FROM TODAY UNQUOTE. ALTHOUGH SMC FIGURES TALKED
TO NOT BUBBLING WITH CONFIDENCE. THEY CONTINUE INSIST GOWON
NOT PARTICULARLY WORRIED BY SEEMINGLY SLOW, OR LACK OF,
PROGRESS. AS ONE SAID, HOWEVER, QUOTE IT HARD TO TELL HOW
JACK REALLY TAKING THINGS BECUASE HE REACTS CALMLY TO GOOD

PAGE 2 RUTALS 332CC SECRET
OR BAD NEWS UNQUOTE. DATTS IMPRESSION FROM CONTACTS TODAY IS
THAT, IN GENERAL, THERE CONCERN THAT THINGS NOT MOVING FASTER;
BUT NO EVIDENCE, AS YET, THERE ANY DESPAIR OF SCHIEVING OBJECTIVES.
ONE SMC FIGURE, HOWEVER, DID SAY QUOTE I AM BIT WORRIED EVEN
IF JACK IS NOT UNQUOTE.
2. IN CONVERSATION THIS MORNING WITH SMC FIGURE, DATT TOLD
FMG MUST NOW CONSIDER GATZNG NECESSARY HARDWEAR (PLANES
SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED) WHEREVER THEY CAN EVEN IF IT MEANS
DEALING ON QUOTE BALCK MARKET FOR THEM UNQUOTE. (SITUATION
WAS NOT APPROPRIATE FOR ASKING WHAT HAPPENED TO DEALS FMG WAS
SUPPOSED TO HAVE ON WITH RUSSIANS, CZECHS, POLES ETC. DATT
INTENDS ASK THIS QUESTION DIRECTLY, HOWEVER, IN NEAR FUTURE

SECRET

0615

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND959503
By MNA Date 10/5/05

S E C R E T

-2- USDAO LAGOS JULY 11 0281

WHEN ATMOSPHERE OF DISCUSSION WARRANTS SUCH BLUNTNESS).
3. ONE STRONG INDICATION FMG ARMY STAFF UNEASINESS CAME THIS MORNING WHEN LTC CO.O. ROTIMI, (PROTECT SOURCE) QMG, IN CONVERSATION WITH DAL MAP OFFICER EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER "RATE OF AMMO EXPENDITURE". SOURCE SAID THAT IF THINGS WENT ON THIS WAY AND ANTICIPATED REPLENISHMENTS "DID NOT ARRIVE ON SCHEDULE FROM U.K., WE LIABLE RUN OUT AMMO IN MIDST OF

PAGE 3 RUTALS 332CC S E C R E T
BATTLE". (DATT CONSIDERS THIS SIGNIFICANT, BUT OUTSIDE POSSIBILITY ALSO EXISTS THAT SOURCE, A YORUBA WHO WAS BROUGHT INTO PICTURE LATE IN GAME, MAY NOT ACTUALLY BE AWARE ALL FMG STOCKS THIS NATURE ON HAND. THIS BASED ON BIT MORE THAN PURE CONJECTURE BUT SHOULD NOT SERVE TO ENTIRELY NEGATE POSSIBILITY FMG AMMO STOCKS MAY NOT BE AT LEVEL SOURCE WOULD PREFER THEM AT).
4. VESSELS MENTIONED PAR 3C, USDAO 0279 JULY 10, STILL IN PORT LAGOS AS MID AFTERNOON TODAY.
5. REFERENCE CHARTER AIRLIFT REFERRED TO, ALSO PAR 3C USDAO 0279, PAN AFRICAN CARGO OFFICER TOLD DAO MAP OFFICER THIS MORNING THAT CHARTER DID NOT MATERIALIZE TODAY. FMG FIGURES TOLD CARGO OFFICER CHARTER WAS ON STANDBY DAY TO DAY BASIS AND PLANE SHOULD REMAIN ON CALL. CARGO OFFICER ATTEMPTED DETERMINE NATURE OF CARGO TO BE CARRIED AND WAS TOLD IT WAS QUOTE FOODSTUFFS UNQUOTE. CARGO OFFICER NOT SURE HE BELIEVES THIS. (BIG DOUBT HERE TOO).
GP-3
BT

NOTE: ADVANCE COPY DELIVERED TO S/S-O JULY 11 8:42 PM
* AS RECD.

S E C R E T

0616

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Authority	VND959503
By	MMNARA Date 10/5/00

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*
POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

SECRET

48

Action

OO RUDTCR RUFNCR RUEDPSA RUEDNKA RUEHC
DE RUTANU 0606G 1910345

AF

ZNY SSSSS

Info

O P 100340Z JUL 67 ZFF-4

SS

FM AMCONSUL ENUGU

GEM

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUTALS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS

SP

RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON

SC

INFO RUEDPSA/CINCSSTRIKE/CINCEAFSA PRIORITY

SAH

RUEDNKA/CINCLANT

L

RUFNCR/AMEMBASSY PARIS

H

RUTAHN/AMEMBASSY ACCRA

EUR

RUGSYD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

IO

ZEN/AMCONSUL ABADAN

P

ZEN/AMCONSUL KADUNA

NSC

STATE GRNC

INR

BT

AID

JOINT US/UK MESSAGE: ADDRESSEES PLEASE PASS BRITISH

PC

O

SY

QPR

OC

1. OJUKWU GAVE DHC PARKER AND ME MILITARY SITREP AS OF
2100Z JULY 9. HE SAID FIGHTING STILL CONFINED TO NSUKKA
AND OGOJA SECTORS, WITH NO NEW FRONTS OPENED.

A. OGOJA SECTOR: HEAVY FIGHTING CONTINUES INTO NIGHT AT
GASKEM. OBUDU QUIET WHERE FRONT HAS BEEN STABILIZED AT BORDER
FOR PAS 24 HOURS.

RSC

RSC

B. NSUKKA SECTOR: GROUND RECOVERED TODAY WHICH LOST
SATURDAY WHEN FEDERAL TROOPS ADVANCED TO OBOLO ON OTURKPO/
NSUKKA ROAD AND WERE IN POSITION MOVE SOUTHEAST TOWARDS

CCO

NKALAGU ON ENUGU/ABAKALI ROAD. FROM PUSHED BACK TO BORDER
IN ARC NORTH OF SMALL VILLAGE OF
ENUGU EZIKE. ON NSUKKA/IDAH ROAD FRONT AGAIN ON BORDER
WEST AND NORTH OF OKUTU.

C. OJUKWU BELIEVES FMG HAS COMMITTED EIGHT BATTALIONS
SOUTH OF BENUE: TWO IN RESERVE OF WHICH ONE WILL REMAIN AT
MAKURDI TO PROTECT BRIDGE; OF SIX ON THE LINE, TWO KNOWN TO BE IN
OGOJA SECTOR AND THREE IN NSUKKA. ONE UNACCOUNTED FOR AND BELIEVED
BADLY CUT UP AT OBUDU.

D. SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED FIRE ON SUNDAY FROM ARTILLERY WHICH
CONCENTRATED NSUKKA SECTOR BELIEVED DUE SHORTAGE AMMO.

E. B-26 AIRCRAFT (ORIGINALLY INTENDED FOR USE AGAINST NIGERIAN NAVY)
PROVING HIGHLY EFFECTIVE AGAINST FEDERAL GROUND TROOPS AND
SUPPLY LINES. NIGER RIVER TOWN OF IDAH WHICH BELIEVED IMPORTANT

SECRET

MICROFILMED BY RS/R

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1967 JUL 10 AM 12 53

ENUGU 60

7-10-67

0617

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Authority VND959503
By MW NARA Date 10/5/05

SECRET

-2- OENUGU 060, JULY 10, 1967
SUPPLY BASE BOMBED SATURDAY.

F. FEDERAL FORCES WELL EQUIPPED WITH MOROT TRANSPORT AND HAVE BEEN ABLE MOVE RAPIDLY. BIAFRAN ROAD BLOCKS BY CRATERING PROVED USELESS BECAUSE OF FMG'S EFFICIENT USE OF COMBAT ENGINEERS PRECEDING ADVANCE WITH BULLDOZERS. AT FIRST FMG ARMOR (BOTH RECCE SQUADRONS BELIEVED ON NSUKKA FRONT) HIGHLY

EFFECTIVE BUT BIAFRAN TROOPS OVER-COMING EXAGGERATED FEAR OF THESE VEHICLES AND ONE SALADIN CAPTURED TODAY AND BEING DRIVEN ENUGU TONIGHT. OJUKWU CLAIMED NINE PANHARDS HAD BEEN RECEIVED BY FMG BUT WITHOUT AMMO AND SPARE PARTS.

G. OJUKWU THINKS NEED FOR DECEPTION WHETHER TO ADVANCE TOWARD BENUE MAY BE VERY NEAR BUT HE STILL VERY CAUTIOUS UNTIL CLEARER PICTURE DISPOSITION UNCOMMITTED FEDERAL TROOPS OBTAINED.

H. OJUKWU SAID FIGHTING AT PRESENT BETWEEN BIAFRANS AND FMG TROOPS FROM NORTH ONLY. SAID HE WONDERED WHAT EJOOR WOULD DO IF GOWON CALLED FOR SUPPORT FROM THE TWO MIDWEST BATTALIONS. NOTED THAT SINCE FIGHTING STARTED MIDWESTERNERS NO LONGER THINKING ON REGIONAL LINES BUT ARE SEPARATING ACCORDING TO TRIBE. SAID HE WATCHING TROOPS BUILDUP IN UGHELII/ WARRI AREA WHICH BEING REINFORCED BY IRREGULARS LED BY ISAAC BORO. DID NOT APPEAR UNDULY CONCERNED ABOUT THREAT OF ATTACK THROUGH DELTA; CLAIMED SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT PROBLEMS FOR TROOPS IN THIS AREA ENORMOUS.

I. OJUKWU SAID CIVIL POPULATION IN OBUDU VERY HOSTILE TO FMG INVADERS BUT IN GAKEM VILLAGERS COOPERATED WITH FMG TROOPS WHO INFILTRATED AREA SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE ATTACK TO SCOUT BIAFRAN DEFENSE POSITIONS. (GAKEM IS HOME VILLAGE OF I. I. MORPHY, ANTI-IBO MINORITIES POLITICIAN NOW BASED IN LAGOS)

2. BRITISH COUNCIL REP VISITED NSUKKA TOWN TODAY TO EVACUATE REMAINING VSO VOLUNTEER. HE FOUND AREA CALM AND SUBSTANTIAL LOCAL POPULATION REMAINING. VOLUNTEER REPORTED NEAREST FIRING HEARD OVER PAST FOUR DAYS SEVERAL MILES AWAY. HAD SEEN BIAFRAN TROOPS OBVIOUSLY BACK FROM FRONT IN HIGH SPIRITS TO POINT OF COCKINESS.

3. ENUGU NORMAL AND CALM.
NO REPORTS OF TROUBLE IN OTHER PARTS OF REGION OUTSIDE FIGHTING AREA.
BARNARD

NOTE: ADVANCE COPY SENT TO S/S-O AT 1:07 A.M., 7/10/67
PASSED: WHITE HOUSE, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA AT 1:07 A.M. 7/10/67

SECRET

0618

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Authority	VND959503
By	MMNARA Date 10/5/05

3
POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

SECRET

CORRECTION ISSUED:
3:25 A.M., 7/14/67 K1

52
Action

AF-6
Info

SS-25

GPM-3

INR 7

OPR 2

RSR 1

44

PP RUEHC
DE RUTALS 292CC 1911745
ZNY SSSSS
P R 101720Z JUL 67
FM USDAO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO RUEPJS/DIA
RUEHC/SEC

007833
CORRECTED COPY

RUEPDSA/CINCSRIKE
RUEDNKA/CINCLANT
INFO RUEPIA/CIA
QUEPWD/DA WASHDC
DA GRNC
BT

SECRET 0279 JULY 67. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTER MIL CONFRONTATION. DIA FOR
DIACO. CINCSRIKE FOR STRJ2-C. DA FOR ACSI.
1. SOURCES FOLLOWING INFORMATION SENIOR EXPAT AND NIGERIAN
OFFICIALS NIGERIA POLICE; STAFF OFFICERS HQ NIGERIAN ARMY;
UK DEFENSE ADVISOR; EXPAT HARBOR MASTER LAGOS; SEVERAL EMBASSY
LAGOS OFFICERS; AND NIGERIAN CIVIL AND MIL OFFICIALS IKEJA
AIRPORT; AND US COMMERCIAL NATIONALS.
2. MILITARY ACTION INITIATED THURSDAY 06 JULY APPROX 0500
LOCAL TIME NOW IN FIFTH DAY WITHOUT CLEAR INDICATION TREND
OF STRGGL. TODAY, DESPITE FACT ALL NIGERIAN OFFICES BACK
ON NORMAL WORK SCHEDULE, ETARTH OF FIRM INFOR

MATION CONTINUES.
DATT TALKED TWICE TODAY TO MEMBER SUPREME MIL COUNCIL (SMC)
(ONCE EARLY THIS MORNING PRIOR NORMAL TEN AM MEETING SMC;
AND ONCE EARLY THIS AFTERNOON AFTER MEETING WHICH LASTED OVER
THREE HOURS) AND WITH REGARDS COLD, HARD DETAILS MIL SITUATION
ON FRONT. HIS INFORMATION CONSPICUOUSLY LACKING IN DETAIL.
AS INDICATED YESTERDAY, SOURCE ADMITTED, FRANKLY, FMG
COMMUNICATIONS FROM FRONT TO HQ LAGOS JUST NOT DOING JOB
KEEPING LAGOS INFORMED IN ACCURATE, TIMELY FASHION. DATT
PRESSED HARD ON THIS ONE (AND SUBSEQUENTLY DID SAME WHEN
TALKING ARMY SOURCES LAGOS AREA) AND, AS RESULT SEARCHING

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PAGE 2 RUTALS 292CC SECRET
QUESTIONS, IS JUST ABOUT CONVINCED FMG MIL ACTION NOT BEING
DIRECTED FROM LAGOS BUT, RATHER FROM MAKURDI AND/OR OTURKPO
WITH SITREP TYPE INFO BEING REPORTED TO LAGOS FOR INFO FMG
AND ARMY HQ. DATT WILL KEEP CLOSE WATCH ON THIS AND ATTEMPT
CONFIRM SUSPICION ALONG THIS LINE, BUT AT PRESENT DATT
BELIEVES THIS MOST LIKELY EXPLANATION OF COMMAND AND CONTRL
STRUCTURE FOR FMG CAMPAIGN. IT JUST DOES NOT SEEM PROBABLE
THAT FMG CAMPAIGN BEING DIRECTED FROM LAGOS HQ IF INFORMATION

SECRET

DEFENSE DEPT

7-10-67

0619

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Authority VND959503
By MNA Date 10/5/05

SECRET

-2- USDAO LAGOS 279, July 11

AVAILABLE HERE IS AS LATE AND AS SCARCE AS IT APPEARS BE.
3. WITH REGARDS TO OB RPT OB FROM FRONT, SITUATION APPEARS AS FOLLOWS:

A. FIGHTING CONTINUES FOR NSUKKA WITH QUESTION AS TO ACTUAL STATUS. FMG CLAIMS IT HAS HAD NSUKKA SURROUNDED SINCE LATE

YESTERDAY AND THAT IT EXPECTS FALL NSUKKA "ANY TIME NOW". ON OTHER HAND, EASTERN SOURCES INDICATE SITUATION CONTINUES "TENSE, AT NSUKKA BUT THAT IT STILL HOLDS AND HAS ACCESS

TO AREA. AS BEST CAN BE DETERMINED, FMG HAS COMMITTED THREE BNS THIS AREA WITH POSSIBLE ONE BN REINFORCED OPERATING IN NSUKKA AREA AND TWO BNS PRESSURING TOWARD OBOLA FROM DIRECTION OTUKPA ON ROAD FROM OTURKPO. EASTERN FORCES DEFENDING IN AREA ARE COMMANDED BY BRIGADE, POSSIBLE 53D BRIGADE, AND PROBABLY HAS AT LEAST THREE BNS COMMITTED DEFENSE OF AREA.

PAGE 3 RUTALS 292CC S E C R E T

B. ON OBUDO FRONT, MOST EVIDENCE NOW AVAILABLE SEEMS INDICATE FMG HAS SEIZED CONTRL THIS AREA. UNCERTAIN HOW MANY BNS COMMITTED ON FMG SIDE, BUT KNOWN AT LEAST FOUR HAD BEEN AVAILABLE FOR FIRST PHASE EMPLOYMENT OBUDO TO OGOJA AREA, FROM SLOWNESS ACTION, IT DIFFICULT

BELIEVE FMG HAS COMMITTED TWO BNS EACH AT OBUDO AND OGOJA AREAS. MORE LIKELY, FROM EXTREMELY SLOW PROGRESS CAMPAIGN THIS AREA, SINGLE BN COMMITTED ATTACK EACH AREA. IF THIS SO (AND THIS ONLY ROUGHEST FORM SPE-

CULATION AS OF NOW) QUESTION ARISES AS TO WHEREABOUTS OTHER TWO BNS KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN AVAILABLE. COULD BE OJUKWU'S SPECULATION FMG HAS DIVERTED ONE OR MORE BNS TO NSUKKA FRONT

IS TRUE. ON OTHER HAND, IF THESE BNS NOT RECOMMITTED NSUKKA FRONT, WE MUST KEEP EYES PEELED FOR THEIR APPEARANCE SOMEWHERE ELSE ALONG LINE. ON PURELY SPECULATIVE BASIS, IF THIS OR ANOTHER FORCE HAD MOVED SOUTH TOWARD GENERAL DIRECTION IKOM AND CALABAR ON FOOT AT TIME HOSTILITIES LAUNCHED EARLY ON 26 JULY, IT COULD WELL HAVE COVERED APPROX SIXTY PLUS MILES TO IKOM/MAMFE ROAD BY NOW. AGAIN, THIS SPECULATION, BUT WITH DEARTH INFO AVAILBLE ALL POSSIBILITIES BEING CONSIDERED SO THAT POSSIBLE EVENTS DO NOT COME AS COMPLETE SUPRISE.

PAGE 4 RUTALS 292CC S E C R E T

C. NO SIGNS AS YET ACTUAL MIL ACTION ANYWHERE SOUTHERN COR AREAS. PREPARATIONS CONTINUE ON FMG SIDE, HOWEVER, FOR SOME FORM INVASION FROM SOUTH. IN ADDITION TO NIGERIAN NATIONAL

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Authority <u>VND959503</u>
By <u>MV</u> NARA Date <u>10/5/05</u>

SECRET

-3- USDAO LAGOS 279, July 11

SHIPPING LINES VESSEL "KING JAJA", REFERRED TO MSG OF YESTERDAY, TWO ELDER DEMPSTER VESSELS IN HARBOR ONE OR BOTH OF WHICH MAY BE TABBED FOR TROOP CARRIER TO COR AREAS. DAO OFFICER LEARNED THIS AFTERNOON THAT PAN AFRICAN DC-6. WILL COMMENCE 54000 POUND CHARTER FLIGHT FOR FMG ON TUESDAY 11 JULY. CARGO IS MIL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FROM KANO TO LAGOS. DATT SURMISES THIS SMALL ARMS, AMMO AND RELATED EQUIPMENT FOR FORCE BEING CONSTITUTED FOR ACTION COR AREAS. BELIEF IS THREE DC 6 LOADS INVOLVED. WILL ATTEMPT DETERMINE NATURE CARGO WHEN IT STARTS ARRIVING LAGOS TOMORROW.

4. ON AFTERNOON 10 JULY, DAOMAP OFFICER AND VISITING CINCSRIKE OFFICER WERE IKEJA AIRPORT WHEN TWO DC3S NIGERIA AIR FORCE ARRIVED FROM TRIP MAKURDI WHERE THEY HAD BEEN ON AMMO DELIVERY RUN WHICH HAS CONTINUED SINCE 08 JULY WHEN FMG FORCES IN AREA RAN SHORT RESERVES MORTAR AND 105 ARTY AMMO. AS PLANES OVER ONE HOUR LATE ARRIVING, GREAT CONSTERNATION IN EVIDENCE AT AIRPORT ON PART FMG MIL OFFICER ON SCENE. WHEN PLANES DID

PAGE 5 RUTALS 292CC S E C R E T

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5. SOURCE IN ARMY G2 OFFICE CLAIMED THAT EAST WAS USING ONE OF ITS EXPAT PILOTED HELICOPTERS IN FMG REAR AREAS IN ATTEMPT DISRUPT COMMUNICATIONS. SEVERAL REPORTS OF CHOPPER PUTTING DOWN IN AREAS LIKELY COMMUNICATIONS LINES.

GP-3
BT

NOTE: ADVANCE CORRECTION COPY SENT TO S/S-O AT 5:45 A.M., 7/14/67

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0621

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Authority	VND 954503
By	MMNARA Date 10/15/03

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State
POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

SECRET

48
Action

AF 6

Info

SS 25

GPM 3

INR 9

OPR 2

KS 21

44

PP RUEHC
DE RUTALS 292CC 1911745
ZNY SSSSS
P R 101723Z JUL 67
FM USDAO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO RUEPJS/DIA
RUEHC/SEC

RUEDPSA/CINCSTRIKE
RUEDNKA/CINCLANT
INFO RUEPIA/CU
QUEPWD/DA WASHDC
DA GRNC
BT

SECRET 0279 JULY 67. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.
SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTER MIL CONFRONTATION. DIA FOR
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1. SOURCES FOLLOWING INFORMATION SENIOR EXPAT AND NIGERIAN
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1967 JUL 10 PM 3 25

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Authority VND 959503
By MNA Date 10/5/05

SECRET

-2- USDAO LAGOS 279, July 11

AVAILABLE HERE IS AS LATE AND AS SCARCE AS IT APPEARS BE.
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SECRET

0623

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND959503
By M/NARA Date 10/5/05

SECRET

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GP-3
BT

(#) OMISSION, CORRECTION TO FOLLOW
* AS RECEIVED, CORRECTION TO FOLLOW

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SECRET

0624

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Authority	VND959503
By	MMNARA Date 10/5/05

INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

PL 27B/AFR-NIGERIA

PL 17 NIGERIA-UK

90

42

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Action

AF

Info

SS

GEM

SF

SC

SAH

L

M

EUR

P

USIA

NSC

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CIA

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TRSY

VZCZCEIB614VV TAA844VV LSA800
RR RUDTCR RUEHC
DE RUTALS 252CC 1901530
ZNY CCCCC
R 091430Z JUL 67
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO RUEHVLXSECSTATE WASHDC
INFO RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LOND
STATE GRNC
BT

1967 JUL 9 PM 12 38

006963

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 252

REF: LAGOS 251

1. LAGOS NEWS MEDIA CARRYING FMG COMMUNIQUE ON GOWON-THOMAS TALK. SUBSTANCE OF COMMUNIQUE AGREED UPON BY GOWON AND THOMAS.

2. COMMUNIQUE SAYS THOMAS WAS RECEIVED BY GOWON YESTERDAY (JULY 8) TO DISCUSS CURRENT SITUATION IN NIGERIA. RE BAN ON OIL SHIPMENTS, THOMAS PUT FORWARD NUMBER OF POINTS WHICH PARTICIPANTS IN TALKS AGREED SHOULD BE REFERRED TO APPROPRIATE

LAGOS 252
7/9/67

RSR
RSC

FMG MINISTRIES FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION BETWEEN REPS OF THE TWO GOVTS. PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED COMMODORE WEY, PERMSEC MEA OGBU, BRIGADIER OGUNDIPE (NIGERIAN HC LONDON) AND SEC TO MIL GOVT. EJUEYITCHIE.

DECON 10/9/67
MATHEWS
BT

2

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NNNVZCZCEIC910;; 5--843VV LSA201
RR RUDTCR RUEDNKA RUEDPSA RUEHC RUEPJS
DE RUTALS 24KK 1900939
ZNY CCCCC
R 090937Z JUL 67
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO ZEN/AMEMBASSY LAGOS
RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON
ZEN/AMCONSUL IBADAN
RUTANU/AMCONSUL ENUGU
RUEDPSA/CINCSSTRIKE/CINCMCAFSA
RUEDNKA/CINCLANT
RUEPJS/DIA
STATE GRNC
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1967 JUL 9 PM 1 42

Kaduna 24
7-9-67

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KADUNA 24

1. NO INSIDE INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN KADUNA UP TO SUNDAY MORNING ON PROGRESS OF FIGHTING ALONG BENUE BORDER WITH

EAST. NORTH PERMSEC INFORMATION AHMED JODA LAST NIGHT PROFESSED (PROBABLY HONESTLY) NOT TO HAVE ANY INFORMATION BEYOND WHAT REPORTED BY RADIO AND NEWSPAPERS.

2. KADUNA CALM AND NO REPORTS OF UNUSUAL ACTIVITY ANYWHERE IN NORTH OUTSIDE SOUTH BENUE. NORMAL WEEKEND ACTIVITY HERE AND LACK ANY AIR EXCITEMENT OR TENSION MAKE IT DIFFICULT APPRECIATE FIGHTING ACTUALLY UNDERWAY 250 TO 300 MILES TO SOUTH.

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Department of State
XR PS 7-6 US-BIAFRA

51

CONFIDENTIAL EP 6-1 ENUGU 06920

Action — VZCECEIC9061;; 5--839NUA356
AF 00 RUDTMR RUEDPSA RUEDNKA RUEHC RUEPJS 1967 JUL 9 PM 12 11
Info DE RUTANU 058GG 1901435
ZNY CCCCC
O P 091430Z JUL 67
FM AMCONSUL ENUGU
SS TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
GEM RUTALS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS
SP INFO RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
SC RUQSYD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
SAH RUTALS/AMCONSUL IBADAN
L RUTALS/AMCONSUL KADUNA
L RUEDPSA/CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA
H RUEDNKA/CINCLANT
EUR RUEPJS/DIA
IO STATE GRNC
P BT
P C O N F I D E N T I A L ENUGU 058
NSC REF: LAGOS 222, 223, 242
INR
AID 1. ALL UNDP PERSONNEL DEPARTED ENUGU MORNING JULY 9,
FC HAD MADE ARRANGEMENTS FERRY VEHICLES ACROSS NIGER. UNDER-
SGS STAND UNDP HHE CROSSED NIGER BY FERRY JULY 9. JOHN HOLT REP
SCA AT ONITSHA SAID FERRY CAN TAKE VEHICLES UP TO THREE DWT.
O
SY
PER PAGE 2 RUTANU 058 C O N F I D E N T I A L
OPR LOADED TRUCKS CAN BE SENT WITH PRIOR APPROVAL OF MILITARY. HE
CC CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT IT UNCERTAIN HOW LONG RIVER TRAFFIC
WILL CONTINUE.

RSR 2. FOLLOWING FIVE MSU PERSONNEL TOOK FERRY TO ASABA MORNING
RSC JULY 9: HOUSE, VETROP, CARGILL, ELLIOTT, AND DEANS. USAID
CCO REQUESTING ALL OTHER PERSONNEL WHOSE TOURS NEARING COMPLE-
AS TION TO BEGIN PACKING HHE, BE PREPARED MOVE ON SHORT NOTICE.
PEACE CORPS CONTINUING THIN OUT PCV'S BUT NOT PLANNING
DRASTIC RIF. UNDERSTAND THAT MAIN PEACE CORPS FORCE WILL
REMAIN
UNTIL ORDER GIVEN TO TERMINATE ALL PC ACTIVITIES.

3. REF PROPOSAL SHUTTLE EVACUEES TO AUSTRALIAN GEM IN EVENT
FMG DENIES PERMISSION HAVE IT ENTER PORT HARCOURT. OIL
COMPANY SERVICE BOAT OPERATORS (MARINE SERVICE AND TIDEX)
HAVE REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED THAT SUCH MOVEMENT SO DANGEROUS
IT SHOULD BE USED ONLY IN EVENT DIRE EMERGENCY,

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ENUGU 58

7-9-67

0627

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CONFIDENTIAL

-2- Enugu 058, July 9

PAGE 3 RUTANU 058 C O N F I D E N T I A L
SUCH AS ATTACK ON EXPATS BY MOBS. THEY
POINTED OUT THAT THIS SEASON FOR HEAVY SEAS OFF BONNY AND
THAT EXPERIENCED SEAMAN FREQUENTLY SUFFER BROKEN LEGS
WHILE TRANSFERRING FROM SMALL BOAT TO LARGE VESSEL.

4. DO NOT BELIEVE WE SHOULD ATTEMPT MOVE AIR FREIGHT OR
HHE DURING HOSTILITIES. WHILE UNDP PERSONNEL
DID SUCCEED IN MOVING HHE, THEY HAD ONLY HANDFUL EMPLOYEES
FOR WHICH LOGISTICS PROBLEMS NOT TOO GREAT.

5. WE PROPOSE FOLLOWING AS AUGUMENTED CONSULATE STAFF
IN EVENT FULL EVACUATION ORDERED: FROM CONSULATE -BARNARD,
MCLAUGHLIN, WILLIAMSON, BRICKHILL, GASE, SCOTT, SELTZER, PERRY,
OPOCENSKY; FROM AID- MARTIN, PARE, TILNEY, BEDOYA; FROM
USIS- MULVEHILL.
BARNARD.

BT
Note: Advance copy to S/S-O 7/9/67, 1:45 p.m.
Passed White House, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA 7/9/67, 1:45 p.m.

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3
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Action NNNVZCZCEIC914 5--852 NUA359
AF OO RUDTMR RUEDNKA RUEDPSA RUEPJS RUEHC RUFNCR
DE RUTANU 059GG 1901655
Info ZNY SSSSS
O 091645Z JUL 67
SS FM AMCONSUL ENUGU
CRM TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SE RUTALS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS
SC RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON
SAH INFO RUFNCR/AMEMBASSY PARIS
L RUTAHN/AMEMBASSY ACCRA
B RUQYSD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
EUR RUTALS/AMCONSUL IBADAN
F RUTALS/AMCONSUL KADUNA
NSC RUEDPSA/CINCSSTRIKE/CINCEAFSA
INR RUEDKNA/CINCLANT
ACDA RUEPJS/DIA
AID STATE CRNC
BT
O S E C R E T ENUGU 059
SY SITREP 1200Z JULY 9
OPR 1. DHC PARKER SAW OJUKWU AT 0900Z ABOUT BBC BROADCASTS, BASED
OC

006932
1967 JUL 9 PM 1:32
ENUGU 59
7-9-67

REC
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OCO
PAGE 2 RUTANU 059GG S E C R E T
APPARENTLY ON INFO SUPPLIED BY FMG SOURCES, WHICH OJUKWU
INTERPRETED AS IMPLYING THAT FMG MINISTER OF STATE THOMAS
HAD MADE CERTAIN COMMITMENTS TO GOWON. FOLLOWING DISCUSSION
THIS MATTER WHICH PARKER REPORTING, SUBJECT TURNED TO
MILITARY SITUATION.

2. PARKER FOUND OJUKWU RELAXED, CHEERFUL AND OPTIMISTIC,

ALTHOUGH OJUKWU DID NOT ATTEMPT MINIMIZE SERIOUSNESS OF
MILITARY SITUATION. FOLLOWING ARE OJUKWU'S COMMENTS:

A. INITIAL FMG MOVES FAITHFUL TO GOWON DOCTRINE THAT BIAFRA
MOST VULNERABLE IN MINORITY AREAS: THEREFORE FEINT IN NSUKKA
SECTOR AND SEND MAIN THRUST EUTH THROUGH OGOJA TOWARD CALABAR.
OJUKWU THINKS THAT FMG, UPON MEETING UNEXPECTED RESISTANCE IN
OGOJA, MADE LAST MINUTE DIVERSION OF FORCES TO NSUKKA SECTOR
HOPING FOR EASIER BREAKTHROUGH. SAID THIS ACCOUNTED FOR
EXCEPTIONALLY HEAVY PRESSURE ON THIS FRONT OVER PAST TWO DAYS.

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-2- ENUGU 059, JULY 9

ALTHOUGH FMG STILL PUSHING HARD IN OGOJA SECTOR, OJUKWU BELIEVES MAIN EFFORT MUST NOW BE NSUKKA BECAUSE SO MUCH

PAGE 3 RUTANU 059GG S E C R E T
COMMITTED THERE. OJUKWU SAID FMG "GAVE US HELL OF A TIME AT BORDER NSUKKA SECTOR. (N.B. WE HAVE NO RPT NO REPORTS FIGHTING IN TOWN ON NSUKFA WHICH SEVERAL MILES FROM BORDER. BRITISH COUNCIL REP DROVE THERE SUNDAY AFTERNOON TO OBTAIN FIRST HAND LOOK.)

B. OJUKWU SAID INITIAL DIFFICULTIES FOR BIAFRAN TROOPS NSUKKA SECTOR IN PART CAUSED BY TOO MUCH INTERFERENCE FROM ENUGU WITH FIELD COMMANDERS. SAID BRIG HILARY NJOKU NOW IN CHARGE OF MIL OPS AND MUCH IMPROVEMENT EXPECTED IN COMMAND AND CONTROL.

C. OJUKWU SAID MORTALITY RATE LOW AND WOUNDED RATE HIGH ON BOTH SIDES WHICH HE ATTRIBUTED TO LACK COMBAT EXPERIENCE EACH ARMY. SAID FMG USING MUCH MORE ARTILLERY FIRE THAN EXPECTED IN VIEW OF PRESUMED SHORTAGE AMMO. CONCEDED THAT FMG MORTAR FIRE SURPRISINGLY EFFECTIVE, INDICATING MORE TRAINING WITH THIS WEAPON THAN FIRST BELIEVED.

D. OJUKWU SAID FMG INFANTRY RELUCTANT TO LEAVE ROADS AND HAVE

PAGE 4 RUTANU 059GG S E C R E T
PROVEN TO BE INEFFECTIVE IN BUSH. BECAUSE THEY UNWILLING BE SEPARATED FROM TRANSPORT, CONVOYS ARE PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TO BIAFRAN AMBUSH.

E. OJUKWU CONTINUED ASSERT THAT FMG IS OVER COMMITTED ON NORTHERN FRONT AND IF BIAFRA CAN HOLD FOR ANOTHER TWO DAYS FMG WILL HAVE LITTLE ENERGY LEFT TO FOLLOW UP EVEN IF BREAK-THROUGH CAN BE ACHIEVED.

3. PARKER AND I WILL ENDEAVOR OBTAIN ANOTHER SITREP LATER THIS EVENING FROM OJUKWU.
BARNARD.
BT

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NOTE: PASSED WHITE HOUSE, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA 7/9/67 2:15 PM

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DATE: 7/9/67 MSG NO.: - TYPE: TE
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 SUBJECT: Update Current FmC Eastern Military Situation
 DOCUMENT ORIGINATOR: DEPT. OF STATE: 164 OTHER: ✓

BASIS FOR WITHDRAWAL:

✓ CONTAINS NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION
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(X2) EPG-1 LAGOS

(X2) PS-7-6 US-NIGERIA

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Action

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(RSC)

VZCZCEIB538 TAA710VV LSA712
PP RUEHC
DE RUTALS 231CC 1891240
ZNY CCCCC
P 081221Z JUL 67
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY
STATE GRNC
BT

1967 JUL 8 AM 10 01

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 231

REF: STATE 2325

IN VIEW OUTBREAK FIGHTING BETWEEN FMG AND EASTERN FORCES,
I RECOMMEND NO REPEAT NO EXCEPTIONS TO TRAVEL DEPENDENTS AT
THIS TIME.

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MATHEWS
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RR RUEHC
DE RUTALS 224CC 1891235
ZNY CCCCC
R 081130Z JUL 67
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC
STATE GRNC
BT

006549

1967 JUL 8 AM 10 26

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REF: STATE 920 *70*

FOR AF/EX

LIMDIS

PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM CONSUL STRONG TO MRS. STRONG:

1. NOW THAT HOSTILITIES HAVE BROKEN OUT IN NIGERIA, WE
HOPE THEY WILL NOT LAST LONG BUT CANNOT TELL. SO CANNOT
ADVISE YOU AT THIS TIME TO MAKE FIRM PLANS COME TO NIGERIA,

THOUGH HOPE TO BEFORE LONG.

2. IF DEPARTMENT WILL AGREE, SUGGEST YOU CONSIDER
ALTERNATIVE OF PROCEEDING AS FAR AS MAJORCA AND STAYING WITH
ROBIN MITHOEVER IF SHE WILLING. BILL SAYS THEIR HOUSE HAS
SPARE ROOM. OTHERWISE, SEE NO CHOICE BUT MAKE TEMPORARY
LIVING ARRANGEMENTS IN US AND AWAIT DEVELOPMENTS.

3. HAVE DISCUSSED ABOVE WITH AMBASSADOR, WHO SYMPATHETIC
BUT UNABLE SEE OTHER ALTERNATIVE AT THIS TIME. TERRIBLY
SORRY. LOVE, CURT.

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VZCZCEIB498 TAA622NUA296
 AF ***** ZZ RUDTCR RUEDPSA RUEDNKA RUEPJS RUEHC
 Info DE RUTANU 046GG 1890045
 ZNY SSSSS
 SS Z O 080040Z JUL 67
 GPM FM AMCONSUL ENUGU
 SP TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC FLASH
 SG RUTALS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS
 SAR INFO RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
 L RUGSYD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
 H RUTALS/AMCONSUL IBADAN
 EUR RUTALS/AMCONSUL KADUNA
 P RUEDPSA/CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA
 NSC RUEDNKA/CINCLANT
 INR RUEPIA/CIA WASHDC
 ALE RUEPJS/DIA
 O STATE GRNC
 SY BT
 RSR S E C R E T ENUGU 046

1967 JUL 7 PM 9 45

ENUGU 46 7-8-67

REF: LAGOS 212

1. IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT EMBASSY'S INSTRUCTIONS ON VOICE RADIO MOVE INTO PHASE I E&E PLAN WITH PHASE II AND III LIKELY FOLLOW

PAGE 2 RUTANU 046 S E C R E T

SOON AFTER, ABOUT 2230Z I PHONED CHIEFSEC N.U. AKPAN AND TOLD HIM I MUST HAVE ACCURATE AND CURRENT SITREP. HE ASKED ME COME TO HIS HOUSE WHERE I EXPLAINED THAT ABSENCE INFO FROM ENUGU AND FACT THAT EMBASSY HEARING ONLY FMG SIDE OF STORY COULD VERY WELL FORCE AMBASSADOR ORDER TOTAL EVACUATION.

2. AKPAN IMMEDIATELY PHONED OJUKWU AND THEN PUT ME ON TO MILGOV. I TOLD OJUKWU SAME THING SAID TO AKPAN AND HE THEN GAVE ME FOLLOWING BY TELEPHONE:

A. OGOJA SECTOR: FOLLOWING REPULSE OF FMG ATTACK IN THURSDAY'S ACTION, FMG TROOPS RESUMED ATTACK EARLY FRIDAY MORNING AND RETOOK HIGH GROUND ON BORDER NORTHEAST OF OGOJA, CAPTURING GAKEM WHICH I. I. MORPHY'S VILLAGE RIGHT ON BORDER. THIS DONE WITH ASSISTANCE GUERRILLA ACTIONS GAKEM VILLAGERS. BIAFRAN REINFORCEMENTS SENT TO OGOJA FRIDAY MORNING TOOK WRONG ROAD AND APPROACHED BIAFRAN POSITIONS FROM UNEXPECTED DIRECTION: RESULT WAS BRIEF FIREFIGHT BETWEEN BIAFRAN TROOPS UNTIL IDENTITY ESTABLISHED.

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-2- ENUGU 046 JULY 7 1967

B. NSUKKA SECTOR: FOLLOWING FMG ATTACK ON BORDER 0700Z 6 JULY, BIAFRAN TROOPS COUNTERATTACKED AND PENETRATED NORTHERN TERRITORY TEN MILES BEYOND BORDER. ON 7 JULY NSUKKA SECTOR QUIET UNTIL

PAGE 3 RUTANU 046 S E C R E T
1300Z WHEN FMG TROOPS ATTACKED IN FORCE WITH ARMOR AND ARTILLERY FROM DIRECTION OF IDAH. BIAFRAN TROOPS HARD PRESSED BY AFTER-NOON ATTACK AND PULLED BACK TO BORDER.

3. OJUKWU SAID CATEGORICALLY THAT FMG TROOPS HELD NO SIGNIFICANT PART OF BIAFRAN TERRITORY AS OF 2200Z WHEN I TALKED TO HIM. BOTH HE AND AKPAN EXPECT HEAVY FIGHTING CONTINUE SINCE FMG APPARENTLY THROWING EVERYTHING IT HAS INTO EFFORT BREAK THROUGH BIAFRAN LINE.

4. I CONSIDER IT SIGNIFICANT THERE ARE NO RPT NO VISIBLE SIGNS OF EXCITEMENT OR NERVOUSNESS IN ENUGU AMONG TOP LEVELS BIAFRAN GOVT. WHEN I SAW AKPAN HE WAS DRINKING OLD CROW WITH MISSIONARY FRIENDS AND AWAITING GOWON'S SPEECH WHICH NEVER CAME. OJUKWU SOUNDED IN RELAXED GOOD HUMOR ON TELEPHONE. SENIOR GOVT OFFICIALS HAVE NOT RPT NOT SENT THEIR FAMILIES BACK TO VILLAGES WHICH ACT HAS PROVEN IN PAST TO COMPLETELY RELIABLE INDICATOR THAT GOVT INSIDERS BELIEVE SERIOUS TROUBLE IMMINENT. AKPAN IN FACT VOLUNTEERED INFO THAT IF AND WHEN NSUKKA CAPTURED HE WILL SEND FAMILY OUT BUT NOT UNTIL.

PAGE 4 RUTANU 046 S E C R E T

5. IN OPINION OF ALL EXPATS WHOSE JUDGMENT WE RESPECT AND WHO KNOW THIS AREA WELL, IT REGARDED VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR FMG FORCES REACH ENUGU UNLESS BIAFRAN ARMY PUTS UP NO DEFENSE WHATSOEVER. EVEN IN THIS CASE ACCORDING TO OLD HANDS COMMUNICATION AND SUPPLY LINES WOULD BE SO VULNERABLE IN HEART OF DENSELY SETTLED HOSTILE IBO POPULATION THAT RUINOUS FMG CASUALTIES FROM GUERRILLA ACTIVITY WOULD BE CERTAIN.

6. WE DO NOT BELIEVE ONITSHA-ASABA CROSSING WOULD PROVIDE SATISFACTORY EGRESS FOR THOSE EXPATS STILL REMAINING IN NORTHERN HALF BIAFRA. SHOULD SITUATION DETERIORATE TO POINT WHERE TOTAL EVACUATION REQUIRED WE WOULD EXPECT SERIOUS FIGHTING AT NIGER CROSSING AS WELL AS IN IBO SECTION OF MID-WEST. IF TIME SHOULD COME FOR TOTAL EVACUATION WE WILL PROBABLY INSTRUCT EXPATS MOVE TO PORT HARCOURT EXCEPT FOR THOSE FEW WHO CLOSE ENOUGH TO CAMEROON BORDER USE MAMFE ROUTE.

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Date	10/5/03

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-3- ENUGU 046 JULY 7 1967

7. I GAVE BOTH OJUKWU AND AKPAN POLITE LITTLE LECTURES ABOUT NEED KEEP PARKER (WHO NOW IN LAGOS) AND ME UP TO DATE BY THE HOUR IF NECESSARY IN ORDER AVOID DECISIONS BY WASHINGTON OR

PAGE 5 RUTANU 046 S E C R E T

LAGOS BASED ON INADEQUATE OR INACCURATE INFORMATION. (GARRISON HAS ALSO BEEN PUSHING FOR BETTER LIAISON WITH PRESS WHICH WOULD HELP US AS WELL.) OJUKWU SAID HE NOW REALIZES HE HAD PERHAPS BEEN WITHHOLDING TOO MUCH IN INTEREST MILITARY SECURITY AND PROMISED HE PERSONALLY WOULD CALL PARKER AND ME REGULARLY. HE SAID, HOWEVER, HE VERY MUCH CONCERNED ABOUT CONTENTS OUR REPORTS GETTING BACK TO FMG AND THAT THERE WERE MANY THINGS HE MIGHT TELL US BUT FOR THIS FACTOR.
GP-1. BARNARD.

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POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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Info

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00 RUDTCR RUEHC RUFNCR
DE RUTANU 056GG 1892210
ZNY SSSSS
O P 082150Z JUL 67
FM AMCONSUL ENUGU
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUTALS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS
RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON
INFO RUFNCR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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JULY 8, 1967
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RUTAHN/AMEMBASSY ACCRA
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RUTALS/AMCONSUL IBADAN
RUTALS/AMCONSUL KADUCK
RUEDPSA/CINCSIRIKE/CINCNEAFRA
RUEDNKA/CINCLANT
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STATE GRNC
BT
S E C R E T ENUGU 056

SITREP 2100Z JULY 8

1. HAVE REPORT FROM SOURCE CONSIDERED RELIABLE THAT B-26

RSK
RSC

PAGE 2 RUTANU 056GG S E C R E T
FLEW THREE SORTIES AGAINST FMG TROOPSTODAY. SOURCE SAID HE
WITNESSED THIRD TAKE-OFF AT ABOUT 1630Z AND THAT HE SAW BOMBS
BEING LOADED INTO PLANE.

2. IRISH EMBOFF EMON O'TUATHAIL VISITED OBUDU AND NYANYA AREAS
JULY 6 THROUGH 8, IS REPORTING VIA UK CHANNELS. SAID BIAFRAN
CASUALTIES AT OBUDU JULY 6 TOTALLED 8 OR 9 WOUNDED AND 4 DEAD
HE GOT FIGURES FROM CATHOLIC MISSION HOSPITAL OBUDU,
BUT THAT "BODY COUNT" SHOWED UP TO 100 FMG DEAD; SAID HE KNEW
THAT 45 FMG DEAD HAD BEEN BURIED. ALSO SAID VILLAGERS WERE
SEEN CARRYING HEADS OF FMG DEAD AROUND TOWN. REPORTED FMG
DID NOT PENETRATE BIAFRAN LINES AT OBUDU. AT GAKEM, BIAFRAN
ARMY OFFICERS BELIEVE LOCALS EITHER HID FMG INFILTRATORS
BEFORE BATTLE STARTED OR LED THEM ALONG BUSH PATHS DURING
BATTLE, ALLOWING FMG GET BEHIND BIAFRANS. THERE RUMORS OF
HEAVY BIAFRAN CASUALTIES AT GAKEM, BUT O'TUATHAIL
SAID FEW SEEN AT HOSPITALS. AT NYANYA, FMG APPARENTLY TRIED
SEIZE BRIDGE THAT CONNECTS OBUDU WITH OGOJA, BUT ATTACK BEATEN
BACK AT 1400Z JULY 7.

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ENUGU 56

7-8-67

0638

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By MNA Date 10/5/05

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-2-ENUGU 056 JULY 8, 1967

PAGE 3 RUTANU 056GGG S E C R E T

3. AT 2030Z LUTHERAN MISSIONARY WALTER RASCH, WHO NOW STAYING AT YAHE, ARRIVED AT CONSULATE TO RELATE EVENTS AS SEEN AND HEARD FROM YAHE. WHILE NOISE OF GUNFIRE REACHED YAHE JULY 6 AND 7, RASCH SAID NOTHING HEARD JULY 8. AFTERNOON JULY 7 ABOUT 450 BIAFRAN TROOPS PASSED YAHE EN ROUTE OGOJA; THEY WERE FOLLOWED BY ADDITIONAL 240 TROOPS MORNING JULY 8. ASKED IF HE THOUGHT FMG COULD TAKE ROAD JUNCTION NEAR EBEEL IN NEXT 24 HOURS (PARA 4 LAGOS 242), RASCH EXPRESSED SERIOUS DOUBT SINCE JUNCTION 43 MILES FROM GAKEM, NEAREST KNOWN FMG PENETRATION THUS FAR. SAID ONLY ALTERNATE ROUTE IS VIA WNAKANDE (6.40N - 8.23E), BUT BORDER THERE MARKED BY RIVER WHICH NOW 40 FEET WIDE WITH NO BRIDGE.

4. ACTIVITY AT ENUGU REMAINS NORMAL FOR SATURDAY NIGHT.

GP-1

BARNARD

BT

NOTE: ADVANCE DELIVERY TO S/S-O 7/8/67 8:05PM

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MM NARA Date 10/5/05

3
INCOMING TELEGRAM POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State

10

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Action

AF NNNNVZCZCEIB572VV TAA775 MVA324

PP REHC

Info DE RUTANU 055GG 1891905

ZNR UUUUU

SS P R 081855Z JUL 67

GEM FM AMCONSUL ENUGU

SP TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY

SC INFO RUTALS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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1. BOTH SIDES WERE CLAIMING MINOR VICTORIES IN THE THREE-DAY OLD CIVIL WAR WHICH ERUPTED IN NIGERIA LAST THURSDAY, AS HEAVY FIGHTING WAS REPORTED CONTINUING TODAY ON BOTH SIDES OF THE THICKLY FORESTED NORTHERN BORDER OF THE FORMER EASTERN REGION. WHILE LAGOS CLAIMED FEDERAL TROOPS WERE ONLY FORTY MILES FROM THE UNIVERSITY CITY OF NSUKKA, DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIALS IN ENUGU STOUTLY REFUTED THE CLAIM, AND ADDED THAT TROOPS OF THE FORMER EASTERN REGION WERE STANDING OFF THRUSTS OF AN

PAGE 2 UNCLAS RUTANU 055GG
ARMORED COLUMN, WHICH PENETRATED THE NORTHERN BORDER, WITH MORTARS AND RECOILLESS RIFLES.

2. FIGHTING APPEARED TO BE CONCENTRATED AROUND THE FOUR MAIN ROAD ENTRANCES TO THE EAST, FROM THE NORTHERN BORDER. THESE ARE LOCATED IN NSUKKA AND OGOJA PROVINCES.

3. EARLIER TODAY, CURIOUS CROWDS GATHERED AROUND ARMY HEAD-QUARTERS TO CATCH A GLIMPSE OF TWO NORTHERN PRISONERS, ONE OF WHOM WAS REPORTED TO BE A HIGH RANKING OFFICER. MEANWHILE, TELEVISION AUDIENCES WERE SHOWN WHAT WAS DESCRIBED AS CAPTURED FEDERAL UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT.

4. ONE SOURCE SAID THAT ACCORDING TO EYE WITNESSES, AT NSUKKA UNIVERSITY, THE FIGHTING BEGAN EARLY THURSDAY MORNING WHEN FEDERAL TROOPS UNLEASHED A HEAVY MORTAR AND ARTILLERY BARRAGE ON EASTERN FORCES.

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ENUGU 55

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-2- ENUGU 55, 081855Z, JULY 1967

5. NO FIGURES WERE AVAILABLE ON CASUALTIES, BUT AUTHORITIES IN ENUGU SAID FEDERAL TROOPS SUFFERED "HEAVY" CASUALTIES.

PAGE 3 RUTANU 055GG UNCLAS

6. AS REPORTED YESTERDAY, THE ENUGU POPULACE CONTINUED TO REMAIN OUTWARDLY CALM WITH A "BUSINESS AS USUAL" ATMOSPHERE PREVAILING THROUGHOUT THE CITY. BARNARD
BT

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1967 JUL 8 PM 3 45

SS

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DE RUTANU 050GG 1891805

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ZNY CCCCC
O 081750Z JUL 67
FM AMCONSUL ENUGU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
STATE GRNC
BT

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ENUGU 050

PLEASE ONPASS SOONEST NEW YORK TIMES WASHINGTON BUREAU FOLLOW-
IND DISPATCH EXGARRISON ENUGU. TRANSMISSION OF DEISPATCH HAS
PRIOR APPROVAL PALMER ASST SECY OF STATE PROAFRICA.

1. EXGARRISON ENUGU 1630 GMT JULY 8--AFTER THREE DAYS OF
HEAVY FIGHTING WITH FEDERAL FORCES, REBEL BIAFRAN TROOPS
APPEARED TO BE HOLDING THEIR OWN AT NEARLY ALL KEY POINTS
ALONG THE NORTHERN FRONTIER.

2. OFFICERS AT DEFENSE HEADQUARTERS HERE SCOFFED AT FEDERAL
CLAIMS FROM LAGOS THAT ITS FORCES WERE ALREADY ONLY 40 MILES
FROM ENUGU.

3. ACCORDING TO USUALLY RELIABLE HIGH RANKING MILITARY SOURCES
HERE IN THE SECESSIONIST CAPITAL, BIAFRAN UNITS ARMED WITH MOR-
TARS AND RECOILLESS RIFLES WERE STANDING FIRM AGAINST CONTINUED
THRUSTS BY AN ARMORED COLUMN WHICH PENETRATED THIS FORMER
EASTERN REGION YESTERDAY FROM THEIR STAGING BASE AT IDAH ON THE
NIGER RIVER.

4. OFFICIALS HERE ALSO DENIED THAT ATTACKING TROOPS HAD PENE-
TRATED TO NSUKKA, A KEY ROAD JUNCTION AND UNIVERSITY TOWN 50
MILES DUE NORTH OF ENUGU.

5. THE BIAFRAN AIR FORCE--A LONE B-26 FIGHTER BOMBER--FLEW
THREE SORTIES FROM ENUGU TODAY, BOMBING AND STRAFFING ENEMY
COLUMNS. ASKED WHAT DAMAGE HE HAD INFLICTED, THE EUROPEAN
PILOT REPLIED: "FRANKLY, I DON'T KNOW, BUT WE MADE A LOT OF
SMOKE."

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-2- ENUGU 050 JULY 8 1967

6. HUNDREDS OF ENUGU PEDESTRIANS WAVED AND CHEERED EACH TIME THE PLANE RETURNED FROM A MISSION AND SWOOPED LOW OVER THE CITY, BUZZING OGUI AVENUE, THE MAIN STREET.
7. AT MIDDAY NEARLY A THOUSAND CIVILIANS SURGED AROUND ARMY HEADQUARTERS TO CATCH A GLIMPSE OF TWO PRISONERS, ONE OF THEM A HIGH RANKING NORTHERN NIGERIAN OFFICER. TELEVISION VIEWERS WERE TREATED TO DISPLAY OF CAPTURED FEDERAL UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT OVER THE REGION'S TV NETWORK.
8. MILITARY SOURCES SAID THAT AFTER BITTER FIGHTING YESTERDAY THE ROAD NORTH TO OTURKPO ACROSS THE BORDER IN NORTHERN NIGERIA APPEARED COMPLETELY OPEN AND UNDEFENDED.
9. BUT THE SAME SOURCES CONCEDED THAT FEDERAL TROOPS WERE STILL HOLDING GAKEM WHICH WAS OVERRUN YESTERDAY. GAKEM IS A TINY VILLAGE OF MUD HUTS ONE MILE INSIDE THE EAST ON THE NORTHEAST FRONTIER.
10. FIGHTING WAS CONCENTRATED ALONG THE FOUR MAIN ENTRANCE ROADS TO THE EAST IN THE NSUKKA AREA DUE NORTH OF HERE, AND AT OBUDU, GAKEM AND NYONYA IN OGOJA PROVINCE TO THE NORTHEAST.
11. ARMY AUTHORITIES SAID THEIR TROOPS HAD TAKEN A NUMBER OF CASUALTIES, BUT WOULD NOT ESTIMATE HOW MANY. NIGERIAN ARMY CASUALTIES WERE DESCRIBED AS "HEAVY."
12. LATE TODAY, MORE THAN 60 CIVILIAN TRUCKS AND BUSES SNAKED UP THE HILL TO ARMY HEADQUARTERS, WHERE THEY WERE ASSIGNED TO CARRY REINFORCEMENTS, AMMUNITION AND FOOD TO FRONTLINE UNITS.
13. THE ATMOSPHERE WAS CALM, ALMOST FESTIVE HERE IN ENUGU. THE ONLY SUGGESTION OF WARTIME CONDITIONS WERE THE CIVIL DEFENSE CORPSMEN DIRECTING TRAFFIC AND STANDING GUARD AT KEY PUBLIC BUILDINGS.
14. OBSERVERS HERE PUZZLED OVER A CLAIM BY RADIO NIGERIA THAT FEDERAL FORCES HAD "CAPTURED" A DC-3 WHICH WAS ALLEGEDLY FLYING RECONNAISSANCE OVER THE NORTH.
15. A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN HERE CONFIRMED THAT THE DC-3, WHICH WAS HIJACKED FROM NIGERIAN AIRWAYS BEFORE SECESSION FIVE WEEKS AGO, WAS STILL SITTING IN PORT HARCOURT, WHERE IT HAS BEEN OUT OF COMMISSION FOR WEEKS FOR LACK OF SERVICING. ENDIT CARRISON. BARNARD

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INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of STATE* POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

53

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Action

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Info

VZCZCEIB561 TAA754V NUA312
 SS 00 RUDTCR RUFNCR RUEHC
 GPM DE RUTANU 049GG 1891510
 SP ZNY SSSSS
 SC 0 P 081505Z JUL 67
 SAH FM AMCONSUL ENUGU
 I TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
 H RUTALS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS
 EUR RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON
 IO INFO RUFNCR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
 P RUTAHN/AMEMBASSY ACCRA
 NSC RUQSYD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
 INR ZEN/AMCONSUL IBADAN
 ACDA ZEN/AMCONSUL KADUNA
 AID RUEDPSA/CINCSSTRIKE/CINCEAFSA
 PC RUEDNKA/CINCLANT
 SCA RUEPJS/DIA
 SCS STATE GRNC
 O BT
 SY S E C R E T ENUGU 049
 PER ENUGU SITREP 1430Z JULY 8

006623

1007 JUL 8 PM 12-20

ENUGU 49

7-8-67

1. CHIEF SEC N.U. AKPAN GAVE FOLLOWING SITREP AS OF 1300Z:
- A. HEAVY FIGHTING NSUKKA SECTOR -- BIAFRAN TROOPS HOLDING AT BORDER AGAINST FMG ARMOR ATTACK FROM DIRECTION IDAHV(WNW). BIAFRAN TROOPS HAVE ADVANCED TO OROKAM IN NORTHERN REGION ON OTURKPO ROAD AND AWAITING DECISION WHETHER MOVE TO OTURKPO. BIAFRAN HELICOPTERS (AND PROBABLY NEWLY LKQUIRED B-26) HAVE BOMBED FMG TROOPS. HEAVY FMG CASUALTIES, WITH INCREASING NUMBER CAPTURED FMG WEAPONS, SUPPLIES AND POW'S. POW'S REPORTING RUMOR IN FMG RANKS THAT HASSAN KATSINA DEAD. EXPAT REPORTED NSUKKA TOWN UNUSUALLY QUIET AT 1000Z, WITH MOST OF BIAFRAN BATTALION GARRISONED THAT CITY MOVED TO BORDER.
- B. FIGHTING CONTINUES OGOJA SECTOR AND GAKEM BOMBED BY BIAFRAN AIRCRAFT.
2. VICE CONSUL MCLAUGHLIN DROVE IN PROVATE VEHICLE TO ONITSHA, EXPERIENCED NO RPT NO DIFFICULTY AT CHECKPOINTS. SAW LITTLE

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-2- ENUGU 049, JULY 8

ARMY TRAFFIC ALTHOUGH MILIKEN HILL GARRISONED BY REINFORCED COMPANY. ONITSHA ITSELF NORMAL: RIVER CRAFT OPERATING, MARKET OVERCROWDED AS USUAL, RESTHOUSE BAR AND RESTAURANT WELL PATRONIZED. MILITARY ROADBLOCK ON NSUKKA ROAD BT NINE MILE CORNER HAS BEEN REMOVED, CIVILIAN CARS WITH WOMEN AND CHILDREN KIEEN HEADING FOR NSUKKA.

3. ENUGU EXCEPTIONALLY CALM WITH NORMAL SATURDAY AFTERNOON TRAFFIC AS CIVIL SERVANTS BEGIN WEEKEND ACTIVITIES.
BARNARD
BT

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 INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State
 POL 27 BIAFRA NIGERIA

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 Action
 CONFIDENTIAL

AF VZCZCQSA119
 Info DE RUQSMG 0059 1891045
 ZNY CCCCC
 R 081020Z JUL 67
 SS FM USDAO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
 GIM TO RUEPJS/D IA
 SP INFO RUEPDS/USSTRICOM/USCINCMCAFSA
 SC RUQSDA/USDAO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
 SAH RUTALS/USDAO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
 L RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
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 BT
 EUR C O N F I D E N T I A L 0187 JUL 67.

1967 JUL 8 PM 5 51

006731

McGuire 187
 7-8-67

1. (U) SUBJECT: VISIT TO MOGADISCIO BY NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO ADDIS ABABA.
 2. (C) NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO ADDIS ABABA ARRIVED MOGADISCIO 3 JULY FOR TWO HOUR CONFERENCE DURING ALITALIA LAYOVER.
 3. (C) PURPOSE OF VISIT TO GET GSR PLEDGE NOT TO RECOGNIZE BREAK-AWAY EAST PROVINCE AND TO ASSIST IN PROPAGANDA ATTACK ON REBELS.
- PAGE TWO RUQSMG 0059 C O N F I D E N T I A L
4. (C) GSR REPORTEDLY AGREED NOT RECOGNIZE BREAK-AWAY GOVERNMENT BUT REFUSED JOIN ANY PROPAGANDA EFFORT.
 5. (C) SOURCE: SOM 401 WHO RELIABLE AND HAS GOOD CONTACTS IN GSR.
 6. (U) COORDINATION: EMBASSY. GP 3.
- THURSTON
 BT

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 Authority VND959503
 By MWA Date 10/5/05

103
INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State

Pol 23-9 the Congo

Pol 27 Biafra-Nigeria

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Action NNNVZCZCDSAG69
RR RUEHC RUEHDT RUEHIA
AF DE RUDSPBK 02, SW Q-0

Info ZNR00000

SS 4 081100Z JUL 67
GPM FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
SP TVQFZHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
SC RUEHIA/USIA WASHDC
SAH INFO RUDSVC/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
L RUDSVK/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA
H RUDSVD/AMEMBASSY DARESSALAAM
EUR RUDSLC/AMEMBASSY LAGOS
IG RUDSC/AMEMBASSY LONDON
P RUFJC/AMEMBASSY PARIS
NSC RUEHDT/USUN
INR ZEN/AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
CIA ZEN/AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI
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UNCLAS LUSAKA 027

006440

1967 JUL 8 AM 9 00

NSA USIA FOR IBS AND IBS

SUBJECT: KAUNDA CONDEMNS AGGRESSION IN CONGO AND OFFERS MORAL ASSISTANCE TO NIGERIA.

PAGE TWO RUDSPBK 027 UNCLAS

1. AT PRESS CONFERENCE ON JULY 7 PRIOR TO DEPARTURE TO NAIROBI TO MEET WITH EAST AFRICAN LEADERS PRESIDENT KAUNDA DISCUSSED RECENT CONGO DEVELOPMENTS AND PURPOSE HIS VISIT TO EAST AFRICA.

2. REGARDING CONGO KAUNDA REGISTERED HIS "DISAPPOINTMENT AND DISAPPOINTMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF ZAMBIA AT DEVELOPMENTS IN GRDC. WE CONDEMN WITHOUT RESERVE THAT AGGRESSION. I AM GLAD TO NOTE THAT BOTH THE USA GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS USSR GOVERNMENT HAVE CONDEMNED THIS AS ACT OF AGGRESSION AND HAVE SUPPORTED PRESIDENT MOBUTU AND HIS GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE. THIS LEAVES ONLY BRITAIN AND FRANCE AMONG THE BIG POWERS TO EXPRESS AN OPINION. AGAIN, IN TERMS OF MILITARY MIGHT, I HOPE, THEREFORE THERE WILL BE NO DIFFICULTY IN SEEING THAT FROM WHICHEVER COUNTRY AGGRESSORS COME WILL BE CONDEMNED BY BIG POWERS, SINCE TWO OF THEM HAVE DECLARED THEY ARE NOT INVOLVED, AND SUPPORT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT".

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(3)

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POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

SECRET XR POL 23-9 NIGERIA

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Action

AF-6

Info

SS-05

GP-6

INK-7

SFR-2

EUR-8

SCS-2

SCA-2

BT

SEC-1

FILE-1

VZCZCEIB522 TAA679VV LSA695

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FM USDAO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO RUEPJS/DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC

RUEDPSA/CINCSRIKE MACDILL AFB FLORIDA

RUEDNKA/CINCLANT ARLINGTON VIRGINIA

INFO RUEPIA/CAS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RUEPWD/DA WASHDC

DA GRNC

BT

S E C R E T 0273 JULY 67. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.

SUBJECT: DEVELOPING MIL SITUATION FMG/EASTERN FORCES. DIA FOR

DIACO CINCSRIKE FOR STRJ2-C DA FOR ACIS.

1. ALTHOUGH: BECAUSE CLAIMS/COUNTERCLAIMS TO BE EXPECTED FROM BOTH SIDES, COMPOUNDED BY FACT PASSING OF WORD FROM FRONT ON NORTHERN/EASTERN BORDER TO FMG FIGURES SEEMS TO BE SLOW PROCESS; HARD DETAILS ACTUAL PROGRESS FIGHTING NOT YET AVAILABLE SUFFICIENT DETAIL TO ESTABLISH PATTERN ACTIVITY TO DATE. RUMORS ABOUND, BUT FACTS, AT THIS STAGE, FEW.
2. SENIOR NIGERIA POLICE OFFICIALS WITH ACCESS FEDERAL

PAGE 2 RUTALS 215CC S E C R E T

OPERATIONS CENTER, POLICE FORCE HQ OBALENDE, TOLD DATT 0800 LOCAL TIME THIS MORNING, HOWEVER, THAT TACTICAL HEADQUARTERS FIRST AREA COMMAND WHICH WAS LOCATED MAKURDI AT TIME INITIATION ACTION 06 JULY, HAD MOVED FORWARD DURING DAY YESTERDAY TO OTURKPO. SOURCES FELT THIS INDICATION THINGS GOING SUFFICIENTLY WELL FOR FMG FORCES TO ALLOW SUCH MOVE BY CONTROLLING TACTICAL HEADQUARTERS. (DATT COMMENT: THIS POSSIBILITY NOT TO BE OVERLOOKED: AT THIS EARLY STAGE GAME, HOWEVER, DATT WOULD ALSO CONSIDER POSSIBILITY SUCH MOVE COULD BE DICTATED BY COMMAND AND/OR CONTROL DIFFICULTIES. NOTHING AVAILABLE TO INDICATE THIS SO, BUT ALL POSSIBILITIES MUST BE CONSIDERED UNTIL MORE DEFINITE PATTERN EMERGES.

3. ALTHOUGH POLICE SOURCES DO NOT INDICATE ANY SPECTACULAR FMG PROGRESS SO FAR, THEY SAY THAT AS OF LATE NITE 07 JULY FMG FORCES WERE INSIDE EAST AT OBUDU AND TAKEN ON OGOJA FRONT AND WERE AT OR IN VICINITY OKUJI WHICH IS APPROX SEVEN MILES WEST NORTH WEST NSUKKA. ATTITUDE IN AND AROUND OPERATIONS CENTER RELAXED AND QUIET. ONE EXPAT POLICE SOURCE WHO HAD GIVEN SAME INDICATION YESTERDAY SAID AGAIN THIS MORNING

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DEFENSE DEPT.

7-8-67

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-2- USDAO LAGOS 273, July 8

HE THOUGHT GENERAL FMG PLAN OF ATTACK CALLED FOR SUFFICIENT

PAGE 3 RUTALS 215CC S E C R E T
PRESSURE ON FRONT NORTH NSUKKA/ENUGU TO REQUIRE EASTERN FORCES CONCENTRATE HEAVILY THAT AREA AT WHICH TIME ANOTHER PHASE OF OVERALL OPERATIONS WOULD BE LAUNCHED. THIS SOURCE EVIDENTLY CONTINUES HOLD TO BELIEF THAT SUPPORTING ACTION WILL DEVELOP IN SOUTHERN MINORITY AREAS OF EAST. HE STRESSES CALABAR AREA. WILL WATCH CLOSELY FOR ANY INDICATIONS SUCH ACTIVITY BECAUSE SOURCE THOUGHT QUOTE THINGS DEVELOPING ALONG THAT LINE RIGHT NOW UNQUOTE.
4. U.K. DEFENSE ADVISOR HAS THEORY THAT ACTION NOW UNDER WAY NOT PLANNED BY FMG BUT THAT SKIRMISHES ON BORDER GRADUALLY BUILT UP UNTIL GOWON, AS RESULT PRESSURES ON HIM TO "DO SOMETHING", WAS FORCED TO GIVE WORD FOR ALL OUT ACTION BEFORE HE READY FOR IT. ALTHOUGH DATT ACCEPTS VALIDITY OF BELIEF THAT CIRCUMSTANCES MAY HAVE FORCED GOWON MOVE BEFORE HE, PERSONALLY, WOULD HAVE PREFERRED TO GO, DATT ALSO BELIEVES U.K. DEFENSE ADVISORS BELIEF STRONGLY CONDITIONED BY FACT THAT, AS REPORTED BY DATT YESTERDAY, WHILE POLICE SOURCES AND MEMBER SMC WERE TELLING DATT GOWON HAD ALREADY MADE DECISION AND GIVEN COMMAND TO GO, SENIOR ARMY STAFF FIGURES WERE TELLING U.K. DEFENSE ADVISOR THAT NO IMMEDIATE ACTION ANYWHERE IN SIGHT.

PAGE 4 RUTALS 215CC S E C R E T
DATT DOES NOT BELIEVE CURRENT ACTION STARTED SPONTANEOUSLY. RATHER, IT IN RESPONSE GOWON DECISION AND ORDER ALTHOUGH IT MAY WELL HAVE BEEN DECISION AND ORDER FORCES BY CIRCUMSTANCES AND COMBINATION PRESSURES BEFORE FMG FORCES FULLY READY FOR ALL OUT ATTACK.
5. WITH RESPECT LOCAL SECURITY SITUATION, LAGOS AND SURROUNDING AREAS CALM AND ORDERLY. HEAVY RAIN FALLING WHICH WOULD DAMPEN ARDOR ANY ONE SEEKING DEMONSTRATE BUT NO TENSION OR UNDUE CONCERN NOTED IN ACTIVITIES PEDESTRIANS WHO APPEAR GOING ABOUT BUSINESS AS NORMAL. REPORTS FROM LOCALS TRAVELING INTO LAGOS THIS MORNING FROM MUSHIN, YABA AND IKEJA SUBURBS INDICATES STRINGENT SECURITY MEASURES IN EFFECT WITH MOTORISTS AND BUS RIDERS BEING FORCED TO DISMOUNT FOR DETAILED VEHICLE AND BODY SEARCH.

GP-3.

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1967 JUL 8 AM 9 02

DEFENSE DEPT.
7-8-67

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Action

AF-6 MZCZCEIB527 TAA693VV LSA700

Info DE RUTALS 221CC 1891120

SS-25 ZNY SSSSS

GPM-3 O P 081100Z JUL 67 ZFF-6

INR-7 FM USDAO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

OPR-2 TO RUEPJS/DIA

SCS-2 RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC

SCA-2 RUEDPSA/CINCSRIKE

EUR-8 RUEDNKA/CINCLANT

BT INFO RUEPIA/CAS WASHDC

RSC-1 RUEPWD/DA

FILE-1 DA GRNC

BT

RSC-1 S E C R E T 0274 JUL 67. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.

FILE-1 SUBJECT: UPDATE CURRENT FMG/EASTERN MIL CONFRONTATION DIA FOR

DIACO.

CINCSRIKE FOR STRJI-C. DA FOR ACSI.

58 1. AT 1030 HOURS LOCAL TIME 080 JULY DATTS SENIOR EXPAT NIGERIA
POLICE SOURCE SAID WORD THEN IN AT FED OPS CENTER WAS THAT
HOSPITAL AT NUSAKKA BEING EVACUATED IN FACE FMG ADVANCE AND
THAT FMG TROOPS AT OUTSKIRTS OGOJA MOVING IN ON TOWN.

PAGE 2 RUTALS 221CC S E C R E T

2. AT APROX SAME TIME AS ABOVE INFO PASSED MAJOR C.O. ROTIMI,
QMG NIGERIAN ARMY, (PROTECT SOURCE) TOLD DAO MAP OFFICER THAT
ADVANCE FMG FORCES GOING EVEN BETTER THAN HE, ROTIMI, EXPECTED
ROTIMI SAID, "THEY ARE ALREADY IN OGOJA". OF PASSING INTEREST,
ROTIMI SAID THAT ONLY REPORTER WITH FMG FORCES WAS REPORTER
FOR "NEW NIGERIAN" THUS STORIES FROM SOURCE SHOULD BE
FAIRLY ACCURATE.

3. AT APROX 1045 LOCAL TIME 08 JULY, MAJOR B.M. USMAN,
(PROTECT SOURCE) NIGERIAN ARMY, SECURITY ADVISOR TO GOWON
WHO HAS CONSISTENTLY PASSED ACCURATE AND TIMELY INFORMATION
TO DATT TOLD DATT THAT FOLLOWING ARE KEY ELEMENTS FMG PLAN
OF ATTACK ON EAST UNDER OP PLAN "UNICORN" NOW UNDER WAY:
A. MAIN OBJECTIVE OF PLAN IS NOT REPEAT NOT CAPTURE ENUGU.
THREE BATTALIONS ARE AVAILABLEXO FMG IN AREA NORTH NUSUKKA
AND MAIN OBJECTIVE THIS FORCE IS TO SEIZE, DIG IN AT, AND
HOLD NSUKKA AT ALL COSTS. IF NSUKKA IS REACHERD AND FORCE
DIGS IN, FURTHER OBJECTIVES FOR THIS FORCE WILL BE DECIDED
BY TACTICAL SITUATION PREVAILING AT TIME. BASIC OBJECTIVE,
~~HOWEVER~~ IS TO SEIZE AND HOLD NSUKKA. WORD HAS BEEN PASSED
TO QUOTE NUMBER OF PEOPLE UNQTE THAT ENUGU MAIN TARGET

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By MWA/ARA Date 10/3/05

SECRET

-2- 0274, 081100Z JULY FROM: USDAO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

PAGE 3 RUTALS 221CC S E C R E T

(ARMY HQ SOURCES TOLD THIS TO U.K. DEFENSE ADVISOR ON 07 JULY) IN ORDER TO CREATE IMPRESSION THAT ALL OUT EFFORT TO BE MADE FOR ENUGU. OBJECTIVE IS TO CAUSE OJUKWU CONCENTRATE FORCES IN THIS AREA AT EXPENSE OTHER AREAS IN EAST. B. MAIN EFFORT OF ATTACK IS BEING MADE BY FOUR BATTALION FORCE NOW UNDER WAY MOVING SOUTH INTO OGOJA PROVINCE, THENCE CONTINUING SOUTH WITH CALABAR AS MAIN OBJECTIVE. THIS FORCE HAD ORDERS MOVE WITH ALL POSSIBLE SPEED USING AS ITS WESTERN BOUNDARY ON MOVE SOUTH THE CROSS RIVER. FORCE IS TO SEIZE AND HOLD MAJOR TOWNS ALONG WAY SUCH AS OGOJA, OBUBRA, AND IKOM. ONE OF KEY OBJECTIVES THIS FORCE IS BRIDGE AT IKOM WHICH THEY HOPE CAPTURE INTACT. IF NOT, THEY PREPARED US RAFTS AND PONTOONS. SOURCE SAID THESE FOUR BATTALIONS WOULD BE SPLIT INTO TWO TWO BATTALION FORCES. ONE WILL OPERATE IN EAST OF SECTOR, THE OTHER IN WEST. C. DEPENDING UPON PROGRESS OF CAMPAIGN BUT QUOTE SOMETIME NEXT WEEK UNQUOTE ADDITIONAL ONE BATTALION FORCE WILL BE LANDED IN RIVERS AREA WITH OBJECTIVES AT YENAGOA, DEGEMA, AND PORT HARCOURT. LOCAL GUERRILLA ASSISTANCE IS EXPECTED IN THIS PORTION OF OPERATION.

PAGE 4 RUTALS 221CC S E C R E T

D. OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF PLAN IS TO ISOLATE IBO AREAS OF FORMER EASTERN REGION BY MIL FORCE ON ALL SIDES. AT THIS POINT ACCORDING SOURCE, GOWON PLANS OFFER CENTRAL EASTERN (IBO) STATE ITS INDEPENDENCE FROM NIGERIA. SOURCE SAID THAT IF OJUKWU ACCEPTS GOWON WILL GRANT HIM HIS INDEPENDENCE. SOURCE THOUGHT, HOWEVER, THAT ON SUCH A SITUATION, OJUKWU MIGHT VERY WELL BE DEPOSED OR, ON HIS OWN, REFUSE INDEPENDENCE UNDER SUCH A GEOGRAPHICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY ISOLATED SITUATION. 4. SOURCE SAID THAT MAJOR PROBLEM FOR FMG FORCES IS LACK ADEQUATE NUMBER FIELD GRADE OFFICERS FOR ATTACKING FORCES. SOURCE SAID IN SEVERAL CASES ONE MAJOR COMMANDING TWO INF BATTALIONS WITH CAPTAINS AS HIS SECOND IN COMMAND IN BOTH BATTALIONS. SOURCE HOPED THIS SYSTEM WOULD HOLD UP FOR DURATION OF CAMPAIGN. 5. SOURCE SAYS THAT BRIGADIER GEORGE KURUBO HAS QUOTE DEFECTED AND SURRENDERED UNQUOTE TO GOWON. GOWON HAS ACCEPTED KURUBO BACK INTO GOOD GRACES BUT FACT OF DEFECTION BEING KEPT QUIET AS QUOTE KURUBO NOT ESPECIALLY POPULAR WITH NORTHERN SOLDIERS UNQUOTE. SOURCE SAID THAT AFTER THINGS GET SORTED OUT KURUBO WILL GET FEDERAL POST ABROAD. GP-3

BT

NOTE: PASSED S/S-O 7/8/67 9:15AM

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By MWA Date 10/5/05

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

POL 27 BIAFRA - NIGERIA

90

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Action

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Info

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PP RUDTCR RUEHC RUFNCR
DE RUTALS 240CC 1891520
ZNY CCCCC
P 081400Z JUL 67
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
RUEFPSA/CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA
RUEDNKA/CINCLANT
RUEPJS/DIA WASHDC
RUTANU/AMCONSUL ENUGU
ZEN/AMCONSUL KADUNA
ZEN/AMCONSUL IBADAN
RUFNCR/AMEMBASSY PARIS
RUFNCR/AMEMBASSY NIAHEY
RUGSYD/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
RUFNCR/AMEMBASSY COTONOU
RUFNCR/AMEMBASSY FORT LAMY
RUFNCR/AMEMBASSY LOME
STATE GRNC
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1967 JUL 8 PM 2 13

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 240

1. REGULAR SATURDAY PRESS BRIEFING FOR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS PRESIDED OVER TODAY BY A. I. OBEYA, PERMANENT SECRETARY MIN DEFENSE, AND LTC JOE AKAHAN, ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF. THEY INSTRUCTED CORRESPONDENTS TO IDENTIFY THEM ONLY AS MILITARY SPOKESMEN. SAID FIGHTING TAKING PLACE TODAY ON MORE THAN TWO FRONTS, BUT DID NOT SPECIFY LOCATIONS. TOLD NEWSMEN THAT NO EUROPEANS PARTICIPATING ON FMG SIDE BUT THAT BIAFRANS HAVE BEEN USING EUROPEANS FOR SOME TIME.

2. FEDERAL INTELLIGENCE PUTS NUMBER OF BIAFRAN FORCES IN THE NSUKKA SECTOR AT 3,000 MEN. ESTIMATED 2,000 MEN IN OGOJA SECTOR. OBEYA AND AKAHAN SAID THAT ON MORNING 7 JULY 500 BIAFRAN RECRUITS WERE CAPTURED AT TRAINING CAMP LOCATED BETWEEN OBUDU AND OGOJA. THEY DECLINED GIVE PROVISIONAL CASUALTY FIGURES, EXCEPT TO SAY THAT BIAFRANS HAD SUFFERED HEAVY CASUALTIES.

3. NIGERIAN AIR FORCE FLYING RECONNAISSANCE WITH LIGHT

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MICROFILMED BY RS/R

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-2- LAGOS 240, 7/8/67

AIRCRAFT. AIR FORCE HAS TAKEN OVER UNDISCLOSED NUMBER OF DC-3'S TO BE USED FOR SUPPORT PURPOSES. IN OFF RECORD COMMENT OBEYA, RESPONDING TO QUESTION ABOUT B-26, SAID AMERICAN AMBASSADOR HAD GIVEN ORDER THAT B-26 SHOULD BE DETAINED.

4. THEY STATED THAT NIGERIAN POLICE ARE FOLLOWING FEDERAL TROOPS INTO THE BATTLE AREAS. POLICE WILL BE USED FOR OCCUPATIONAL PURPOSES.

5. THEY WOULD NOT COMMENT WHEN ASKED ABOUT INVOLVEMENT OF NIGERIAN NAVY IN MIL ACTION OTHER THAN BLOCKADE. ALSO WOULD NOT ANSWER QUESTIONS RE PRESENCE FEDERAL FORCES IN RIVERS AREA OR CALABAR, OR ON DEGREE OF SUPPORT FMG RECEIVING LOCAL POPULATION IN EAST. SAID THERE HAD BEEN "VARIOUS UPRISINGS" BEFORE FMG ATTACK, INCLUDING INCIDENT AT CALABAR, WHERE ARMORY HAD BEEN BROKEN INTO AND QUANTITY ARMS AND UNIFORMS TAKEN.

5. AKAHAN AND OBEYA DECLINED KNOWLEDGE EXISTENCE "OPERATION UNICORN", AND DENIED PRESS REPORTS

THAT SEALED ORDERS HAD BEEN GIVEN FMG FORCES TO LAUNCH ATTACK. SAID FMG ATTACK MADE IN RESPONSE TO BIAFRAN INITIATIVE. ASKED WHAT PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF FMG IS, THEY REPLIED TO PUT DOWN REBELLION. EMPHASIZED FIGHTING IS NOT CIVIL WAR BUT "POLICE ACTION". EXPRESSED UNHAPPINESS AT BBC USE OF TERM "CIVIL WAR".

7. THEY WOULD GIVE NO FIRM ESTIMATE ON TIME NECESSARY TO GET OJUKWU AND END HOSTILITIES.

8. PERM SEC MIN ECON DEVELOPMENT, ALLISON AYIDA, ALSO PRESENT AT BRIEFING, SAID GOWON WILL MEET SMITH, COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT, TODAY. CO MIN STATE THOMAS MEETING DIKKO, FED COMMISSIONER MINES AND POWER (WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR PETROLEUM), TODAY.

9. AYIDA SAID FMG CLOSURE EASTERN PORTS, INCLUDING TANKERS, IS "OPEN SECRET". HOWEVER, FMG WOULD FURNISH NO RPT NO DETAILS NOR WOULD IT ISSUE FORMAL STATEMENT ON CLOSURE OF EASTERN PORTS.

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-3- LAGOS 240, 7/8/67

18. AYIDA BLAMED CLOSURE OF BONNY TO TANKERS ON BRITISH. "IT WAS A CONSEQUENCE OF BRITISH GOVT INVOLVEMENT. IT LOOKED TO US AS THOUGH THE BRITISH GOVT WAS TRYING TO INTERFERE IN A HIGH-HANDED WAY. HOWEVER, THE BRITISH GOVT NOW KNOWS WHAT WE WANT". HE SAID BRITISH KEPT EMPHASIZING LOCAL CONTROL AT REFINERY BY REBELS AND IGNORED FACT THAT FMG CONTROLLED SHIPMENTS FROM REFINERY. HE CALLED THIS "A MISCALCULATION". BY EITHER BRITISH OR SHELL-BP WHICH REQUIRED STRONG FMG RESPONSE.

DECON 1/8/68
MATHEWS
BT

NOTE: ADVANCE COPY TO S/S-O 7/8/67 4:00PM
PASSED WHITE HOUSE, CIA, DOD, NSA, USIA 7/8/67 6:20PM

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INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State* POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

SECRET

Action

AF-6

Info

SS-25

INR-7

EUR-8

OPR-2

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FILE 1

SS

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DE RUTALS 229CC 1891155

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08 JUL 8 AM 9:02

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FM USDAO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO RUEPJS/DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

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RUEPDA/CINCSRIKE

RUEDNA/CINCLANT

INFO RUEPIA/CAS WASHDC IMMEDIATE

RUEPWD/DA WASHDC

DA GRNC

BT

S E C R E T 0275 JULY 67. SGD HALLIGAN. COUNTRY: NIGERIA.

SUBJECT: DEVELOPING MIL SITUATION FMG/EASTERN FORCES. DIA FOR DIACO. CINCSRIKE FOR STRJ2-C. DA FOR ACSI.

1. INFO AVAILABLE TO DATT APPROX 1145 HOURS LOCAL TIME 08 JULY FROM KEY STAFF OFFICERS NIGERIAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS INDICATES THAT FOLLOWING IS MANNER IN WHICH FMG ACTION AGAINST EAST HAS DEVELOPED SO FAR:

A. AT 0500 LOCAL TIME 06 JULY TWO ATTACKS WERE LAUNCHED BY FMG. ONE BN INITIATED ATTACK TOWARD NSUKKA FROM DIRECTION IDAH-ADORU WITH INTERMEDIATE OBJECTIVE OKUJI. AT SAME TIME

ANOTHER BN LAUNCHED ATTACK AT OBUDU. ATTACK AT NSUKKA DESIGNED CONCENTRATE ATTENTION EASTERN SEVENTH BN, NSUKKA, IN THAT DIRECTION. ATTACK AT OBUDU DESIGNED FOCUS ATTENTION EASTERN FIRST BN FORWARD IN OGOJA PROVINCE IN THAT DIRECTION.

AT 2200 HOURS LOCAL TIME 06 JULY, THREE MORE SIMULTANEOUS ATTACKS WERE LAUNCHED BY FMG FORCES. IN NSUKKA SECTOR ONE BN LAUNCHED ATTACK AT OBOLA NORTH EAST OF NSUKKA INTO AREA FROM WHICH ATTENTION SEVENTH BN HAD BEEN DRAWN. AT SAME TIME SECOND FMG BN LAUNCHED ATTACK FROM OJEBE AND ADIDABE (DUE NORTH ABAKALIKI ACROSS AND NORTH OF EASTERN BOUNDARY). DIRECTED DUE SOUTH TO ABAKALIKI INTO AREA FROM WHICH ATTENTION FIRST BN HAD THEN BEEN DRAWN. ALSO AT SAME TIME (2200 HOURS 06 JULY) THIRD FMG BN, WHICH PART MAIN FORCE, AS WAS BN ATTACKING EARLIER AT OBUDU, LAUNCHED ATTACK AT OGOJA MOVING SOUTH WEST ALONG MAIN ROAD FROM AREA NORTH OF BORDER. IN CONSONANCE WITH OVERALL FMG PLAN WHEREBY MAIN EFFORT TO BE MADE TOWARD CALABAR, UNITS AT NSUKKA, OBOLO AND ABAKALIKI WILL HOLD AND DIG IN FOR DEFENSE ONCE THESE OBJECTIVES REACHED SO AS TO ALLOW MAIN EFFORT TOWARD CALABAR TO PROCEED WITH MAX POSSIBLE NUMBER EASTERN FORCES FORCED TO HOLD IN NORTH OF SECTOR. IF

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DEFENSE DEPT. 7-8-67

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-2- 0275, 081145Z, JULY FROM USDAO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

EASTERN FORCES WITHDRAW TO MEET THREAT TOWARD CALABAR, FMG FORCES WILL MOVE FURTHER SOUTH TO KEEP PRESSURE ON AND EASTERN FORCES TIED DOWN.

B. FMG WORD AT THIS TIME IS THAT NSUKKA NOW SURROUNDED BY FMG FORCES.

2. WITH REGARD TO INFO PASSED LAST MSG THAT FMG INTENDS LAND FORCE IN RIVERS AREA QUOTE SOMETIME NEXT WEEK UNQUOTE INFO NOW AVAILABLE IS THAT STRONG ELEMENTS GOWON'S FEDERAL GUARD BATTALION FLOWN OUT OF LAGOS LAST NITE AND THIS MORNING FOR UNKNOWN DESTINATION. POSSIBILITY EXISTS THIS FORCE COULD BE PART INVASION FORCE PLANNED FOR RIVERS AREA. NOTHING FIRM ON THIS AS YET, HOWEVER.

GP-3.
BT

NOTE: PASSED S/S-O 7/8/67 9:12 AM

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

POL 7 DAHOMEY

XR POL 27

ARAB-ISR/UN

POL 27 BIAFRA
NIGERIA

POL DAHOMEY-US

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy COTONOU

Info

INFO: Amembassy LAGOS
USUN

STATE 3334

Following is FYI NO/FORN based on unclassified memcon subject to revision on review.

In hour-long session July 5 Secretary Rusk and Dahomean FonMin Sinzou discussed following points:

1. Middle East - Zinsou characterized UNGA Session as "difficult and delicate". Said Dahomey had opposed holding Session, realizing public airing of positions could only inflame passions. Once Session convened, had resisted strong appeals and even "threats" (showing Dahomey not "standing at attention for France"). Despite desire vote no on Yugoslav resolution, Dahomey had abstained in effort preserve unity of OCAM and had carried with ~~the~~ it number of others who might otherwise have voted yes. Although OCAM had weathered Session well, implications more serious for OAU. Cleavage had developed which would be clearly revealed at September Summit, should that meeting take place.

With nothing settled at UNGA, Zinsou continued; ME question could now revert to Security Council, where hopefully quiet negotiation could

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Drafted by: AF:AFCW:RRstrand:esw 7/8/67

Tel. Ext. 6061

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AF - Ambassador Trimble

Clearances: AFCW - Mr. van Osd (substance)
Ambassador Knox (substance)

S/S - Mr. O'Donohue

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Classification

FORM DS-322
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37 INCOMING TELEGRAM *POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA* Department of State

53

SECRET

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FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO RUTALS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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GP-1

JONES

BT

SUBJECT: NAIROBI CONFERENCE ON NIGERIA

1. GOK HAS MADE NO OFFICIAL STATEMENT ON CONFERENCE EXCEPT TO ANNOUNCE EXPECTED ARRIVALS OF KAUNDA, OBOTE AND NYERERE. THEY BEING VERY CLOSE-MOUTHED IN PRIVATE AS WELL AS IN PUBLIC, AND MOST WERE INCOMMUNICADO THROUGHOUT JULY 7.

2. NIGERIAN HICOM HARRIMAN HAS ISSUED SEVERAL PRESS STATEMENTS IN PAST WEEK (REF LAGOS 142), BUT NAIROBI PAPERS HAVE NOT PICKED THEM UP. ONLY REFERENCE TO CONF ON JULY 7, FOR INSTANCE, WAS ANNOUNCED OF ARRIVAL HEADS OF STATE. EITHER THEY UNABLE GET INFO OR THEY ARE COOPERATING WITH GOK, WHICH GIVES EVERY EVIDENCE OF WISHING WHOLE THING HAD NEVER HAPPENED.

3. SEE AKN 3950 ON GOK ATTITUDE TOWARD CONF.

GP-1. JONES

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1967 JUL 7 AM 10 47

Info DE RUTALS 010BB 1881000

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SS FM AMCONSUL IBADAN

GPW TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC

SP INFO ZEN/AMEMBASSY LAGOS

SC RUDICR/AMEMBASSY LONDON

SAH RUTANU/AMCONSUL ENUGU

L ZEN/AMCONSUL KADUNA

H RUEDPSA/CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA

EUR RUEDNKA/CINCLANT

IO RUEPJS/DIA

BT STATE GRNC

P C O N F I D E N T I A L IBADAN 010

USIA

NSC REF: IBADAN 339

INR

CIA 1. RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH ALHAJI ADEGBENRO, 'DELE IGE

NSA AND OTHER PROMINENT YORUBAS HAVE INDICATED GREAT FEAR ON

ATD THEIR PART THAT IBOS WERE PLANNING TO SABOTAGE FEDERAL

GU INSTITUTIONS LOCATED IBADAN, IN PARTICULAR UNIVERSITY OF

IBADAN AND UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL.

2. IN EFFORT UNDERSTAND THIS APPREHENSION, CONSULATE

RSK

RSC

PAGE 2 RUTALS 010BB C O N F I D E N T I A L

OFFICER QUESTIONED E.M. AJALA, LOCAL HEAD NIGERIAN TOBACCO

TEN CASES GELIGNITE NEAR UNIBADAN (IBADAN 339). ACCORDING

AJALA LEADER OF GROUP AN IBO GRADUATE FROM UNIVERSITY

NIGERIA. TARGETS FOR BOMBINGS WERE UNIBADAN AND HOSPITAL.

REASON FOR BLOWING UP INSTITUTIONS, AJALA CLAIMS, IS IBO

ANGER AT YORUBAS HAVING DISPLACED THEIR FELLOW COUNTRYMEN

AFTER MASS EXODUS IBO DOCTORS AND PROFESSORS FROM BOTH

INSTITUTIONS SINCE LAST OCTOBER. PURPOSE IS TO TEACH YORUBAS

A LESSON. (THIS APPARENTLY YORUBA CONCEPTION OF IBO REASONING.)

3. BOTH INSTITUTIONS UNDER GUARD AND PREMIER HOTEL

NOW SEARCHES ALL ENTERING GUESTS.

GP-4 STRONG

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By MVA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

10

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CORRECTION ISSUED:
JULY 7, 1967 11 PM

Action

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DE RUTALS 009BB 1881000
ZNY CCCCC

005295

Info

R 070930Z JUL 67

1967 JUL 7 AM 9 03

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FM AMCONSUL IBADAN

GPM

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC

SP

INFO ZEN/AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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ZEN/AMCONSUL KADUNA

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STATE GRNC

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INR

C O N F I D E N T I A L IBADAN 009

CIA

NSA

AID

RSR

RSC

REF: IBADAN 007

1. DEL LAUDNER, AMCIT RESIDENT ENGINEER WITH GILBERT ASSOCIATES, TOLD CONSULATE OFFICER THAT HE HAD SEEN FERRET ACCIDENT PREVIOUSLY REPORTED (IBADAN 007). ACCORDING LAUDNER ACCIDENT OCCURED LESS THAN TWO MILES OUTSIDE TOWN WHERE FERRET AND SALADIN COLLIDED WITH AMMO TRUCK AND LATTER EXPLODED CAUSING FERRET TO BURN. FERRET REMAINED AT

PAGE 2 RUTALS 009BB C O N F I D E N T I A L
SIDE OF ROAD FOR TWO DAYS BEFORE ARMY COULD REMOVE IT.

2. LAUDNER ALSO REPORTED SEEING TWO SALADINS AND TWO FERRETS ON ROAD TO IFE LATE AFTERNOON JULY 6.

3. JULY 7 CHECK RECCE SQUAD CANTONMENT AREA BY SMALL BDHC REVEALED ONE SALADINE AND SIX FERRETS.

GP-4 STRONG

BT

RECEIVED BY 05/8

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Info R 070930Z JUL 67

1967 JUL 7 AM 9 03

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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
GP: INFO ZEN/AMEMBASSY LAGOS
SP: RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON
SC: RUTANU/AMCONSUL ENUGU
SAH: ZEN/AMCONSUL KADUNA
L: RUEDPSA/CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA
H: RUEDNKA/CINCLANT
RUEPJS/DIA
EUR: STATE GRNC
P: BT

USIA C O N F I D E N T I A L IBADAN 009

NSC REF: IBADAN 007

INR
CIA 1. DEL LAUDNER, AMCIT RESIDENT ENGINEER WITH GILBERT
NSA ASSOCIATES, TOLD CONSULATE OFFICER THAT HE HAD SEEN FERRET
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ACCIDENT OCCURED LESS THAN TWO MILES OUTSIDE TOWN WHERE
RSR FERRET AND SALADIN COLLIDED WITH AMMO TRUCK AND LATTER
RSC EXPLODED CAUSING FERRET TO BURN. FERRET REMAINED AT

PAGE 2 RUTALS 009BB C O N F I D E N T I A L
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3. JULY 7 CHECK RECCE*SQAD CANTONMENT AREA BY SMALL BDHC
REVEALED ONE XLADINE* AND SIX FERRETS.

GP-4 STRONG

BT

* - As received; correction to follow.

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43

SECRET

Kaduna 18
7-7-67

Action NNNNVZCZCQSA817
AF 00 RUDTCR RUEHC
Info DE RUTALS 18KK 1381035
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SS O P 071034Z JUL 67 5 3 0 0
GEM FM AMCONSUL KADUNA 1967 Jul 7, 9:21 a.m.
SP TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
SC ZEN/AMEMBASSY LAGOS
SAH INFO RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
L RUTANII/AMCONSUL ENUGU
H ZEN/AMCONSUL IBADAN
EUR RUEPJS/DIA
IO RUCKHC/CINCLANT
P RUEDPSA/CINCSRIKE/CINCMEAFSA
NSC STATE GRNC
INR BT
NIC S E C R E T KADUNA 18
AID REF ENUGU 32 - *POL BIAFRA-NIGERIA*
PG FOLLOWING STATEMENTS MADE TO CONSOFF JULY 6 BY RASAK
SR AREMU, CHIEF EDITORIAL EXECUTIVE, NEW NIGERIAN NEWSPAPER:
ORM
SCA PAGE 2 RUTALS 18KK S E C R E T
SCS
O 1. AREMU EXPECTS FMG FORCES TO ATTACK EITHER LATE
SY JULY 7 OR EARLY MORNING JULY 8. HE SAID BASIS HIS
PER BELIEF IS WEITEN REPORTS RECEIVED FROM NEW NIGERIAN
FBO REPORTER ASSIGNED TO FOURTH BATTALION. REPORTER'S
OPR DESPATCHES ARE FLOWN TO KADUNA BY NAF UNIT NOW AT MAKURDI.
OG 2. AREMU SAID HIS BENUE REPORTER SENT DESPATCH ON OR
ABOUT JULY 3 WHICH ANNOUNCED THAT QUOTE FIGHTING BEGAN
LAST NIGHT ALONG NORTHERN BORDER UNQUOTE. DESPATCH
RSR SIGNED BY MAJOR APOLLO, C.O. BATTALION, AND EMBARGOED
RSC UNTIL JULY 8. CONSEQUENTLY AREMU BELIEVES FMG WILL
GCO ATTACK LATE JULY 7 OR EARLY MORNING JULY 8.
3. AREMU SAID FMG TROOPS ALREADY ON BIAFRA SOIL AND
ARE ABOUT FOUR MILES FROM NSUKKA, BUT NO FMG ANNOUNCE-
MENT TO THAT EFFECT SINCE FMG TROOPS MOVED WITHOUT
GOWON'S BLESSING.
4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH AREMU FLAMBOYANT TYPE AND

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①

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-2- KADUNA 18 Jul 7

PAGE 3 RUTALS 18KK S E C R E T
CONSOFF DID NOT SEE DESPATCH, CONSULATE HAS NO REASON
DISBELIEVE HIS STATEMENT RE REPORTER'S DESPATCH.
AREMU INTIMATED, WITHOUT SPECIFIC EVIDENCE, THAT FMG
HAD BEEN CONCERNED ABOUT EAST'S COMBAT AIR CAPABILITIES
BUT NO LONGER CONCERNED SINCE IT ESTABLISHED, AREMU
SAID, THAT EAST HAS ONLY FIVE AIRCRAFT, INCLUDING ONE
HELICOPTER, ONE EXECUTIVE AIRCRAFT, AND THREE OTHER
PLANES, TWO OF WHICH NOW GROUNDED.
GP-3 STOKES

NOTE: PASSED S/S-O, WHITE HOUSE, DOD, CIA, USIA, NSA, COMIDEASTFOR,
CINCSRIKE 7-7-67 10:10 a.m.

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XR POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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Info

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USIA

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ENUGU 45

7-7-67

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ENUGU 045

PLEASE TELEPHONE SOONEST NEW YORK TIMES WASHINGTON BUREAU FOR
ONPASSING THIS STORY FROM GARRISON ENUGU.

1. EXGARRISON ENUGU 1530 GMT JULY 7 THE REBEL BIAFRAN
GOVERNMENT CLAIMED TODAY TO HAVE REPULSED A BROAD OFFENSIVE
BY FEDERAL TROOPS ALONG THIS FORMER EASTERN REGION NORTHERN
FRONTIER.
2. A COMMUNIQUE FROM DEFENSE HEADQUARTERS HERE IN THE
SECESSIONIST CAPITAL SAID "HEAVY FIGHTING" BROKE OUT IN THE
PRE DAWN DARKNESS YESTERDAY AT OBUDU, NYENYA AND GOKEN IN OGOJA

PROVINCE IN THE NORTHEAST, A FOURTH ATTACK WAS LAUNCHED AT THE
SAME TIME ON THE KEY ROAD JUNCTION AT ENUGU-HYPHEN EZIKE IN
NSUKKA PROVINCE JUST FIFTY MILES NORTH OF HERE.

4. INDEPENDENT OBSERVERS TREATED CLAIM MERCENARIES WERE INVOLVED
WITH CONSIDERABLE SKEPTICISM. THE PRESS AND RADIO HERE HAVE
ALREADY CHARGED SOME MONTHS AGO THAT MERCENARIES WERE SERVING
WITH FEDERAL UNITS, BUT THESE ALLEGATIONS WERE NEVER SUBSTAN-
TIATED HERE NOR COULD THEY BE CONFIRMED BY NEWSMEN AND
DIPLOMATIC OBSERVERS STATIONED IN THE REST OF THE FEDERATION.
5. THERE WAS NO QUESTION HOWEVER THAT HEAVY FIGHTING DID ERUPT
YESTERDAY MORNING, BEGINNING WITH A MORTAR AND ARTILLERY BARRAGE
IN THE NSUKKA AREA. AMERICAN FACULTY AT THE UNIVERSITY AT NSUKKA
COULD CLEARLY HEAR THE FIRING. THEY AND ALL OTHER AMERICANS
POSTED IN THE AREA WERE ORDERED WITHDRAWN TO ENUGU AT THE
REQUEST OF ROBERT BARNARD, THE AMERICAN CONSUL HERE.
6. DEFENSE HEADQUARTERS HERE SAID THAT FIGHTING WAS STILL
CONTINUING IN OGOJA PROVINCE, BUT SAID NIGERIAN FORCES HAD FAILED

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By MNA Date 10/5/05

INCOMING TELEGRAM *Department of State*

POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

XC PET 17-2 BIAFRA

XC PET 12-2 NIGERIA

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*Kaduna 20
7-7-67*

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RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON
RUTANU/AMCONSUL ENUGU
ZEN/AMCONSUL IBADAN
RUEPJS/DIA
RUCKHC/CINCLANT
RUEDPSA/CINCSSTRIKE/CINCPACAFSA
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SECRET KADUNA 20
- POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
REF KDAUNA 18, ENUGU 32 AND 35

1. UKDHC LAIRD AND I SAW ALI AKILU, SECY TO INTERIM ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL NORTHERN STATES (ACNS) JULY 7. AKILU CLAIMED TO BE TOTALLY WITHOUT INFORMATION ON REPORTS OF MILITARY CLASHES ON EAST-NORTH BORDER.

2. AKILU CONTRADICTED REPORT (KADUNA REFTEL) THAT HASSAN KATSINA TRIP TO BENUE POSTPONED. HE SAID KATSINA HAD BEEN TO BENUE AND HAD RETURNED TO KADUNA BUT HE DID NOT SAY WHEN KATSINA LEFT OR RETURNED.

3. WHEN DISCUSSION TURNED TO RADIO REPORTS THAT FMG HAS ORDERED BLOCKADE ON POL MOVEMENTS OUT OF EAST. AKILU SAID NORTH HAD FACILITIES FOR ONE MONTH'S RESERVES BUT POSED NO OBJECTION WHEN LAIRD SAID HE UNDERSTOOD NOT MORE THAN TWO WEEKS POL SUPPLY ON HAND. HE AGREED THAT, WITH DISRUPTION MIDDLE EAST OIL SUPPLIES AND SHIPPING TANGLE, IT COULD BE DIFFICULT GET ALTERNATIVE SUPPLIES TO NIGERIA EVEN THOUGH STAND-BY ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE BEFORE ARAB-ISRAELI WAR.

4. CONSULATE AS YET UNABLE OBTAIN ANY CONFIRMATION MILITARY CONFLICT ALONG BENUE BORDER.
GP-E STOKES

BT

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POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
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INFO ZEN/AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KADUNA 21

1. FBIS REPORTING ENUGU BROADCAST 1500 GMT JULY 7
THAT FMG TROOPS QUOTE LED BY WHITE MERCENARIES UNQUOTE

LAUNCHED ATTACK ALONG GAKEM, OBUDU,
NYONYA FRONT IN OGOJA PROVINCE AND AT ENUGU-EZIKE
NORTHEAST OF NSUKKA.

2. ENUGU RADIO CLAIMS ALL ATTACKS REPELLED AND
BIAFRANS PUSHED BACK FMG TROOPS FIVE MILES INTO
BENUE CAPTURING TOWN OF OKPO IN IGALA DIVISION (KABBA
PROVINCE).

3. RADIO SAYS FIGHTING STILL GOING ON ALONG OGOJA
FRONT AND THAT FMG SUSTAINED HEAVY CASUALTIES IN-
CLUDING SIX OFFICERS KILLED AND ONE ENTIRE COMPANY
LOST.
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XR POL 13-3 NIGERIA

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R 071700Z JUL 67
FM AMCONSUL KADUNA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO ZEN/AMEMBASSY LAGOS
RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON
RUTANU/AMCONSUL ENUGU
ZEN/AMEMBASSY IBADAN
RUEPJS/DIA
RUDKHC/CINCLANT
RUDPSA/CINCSSTRIKE/CINCMCAFSA
STATE GRNC

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1967 JUL 7 PM 4 05

Kaduna 22
7-7-67

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KADUNA 22

1. NEW NIGERIAN TODAY CARRIED FRONT PAGE HEADLINE
"TREAT THE EASTERNERS HUMANELY" OUTLINING CONTENTS

OF OPERATIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR NIGERIAN ARMED
FORCES WHICH ORDERS FMG FORCES TREAT EASTERNERS HUMANELY
AND AVOID WANTON KILLING, MOLESTATION, DESTRUCTION OF
PROPERTY OR LOOTING.

2. ARTICLE ACCOMPANIED BY FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL "FOLLOW
THIS CODE" WHICH EMPHASIZES DETERMINATION TO OVERTHROW
QJUKWU IN MOST HUMANE FASHION POSSIBLE AND THAT EASTERN
PEOPLE NOT ENEMY OF FMG FORCES. EDITORIAL SAYS WHEN
PRESENT SITUATION RESOLVED, NIGERIANS WILL LIVE TOGETHER
AMICABLE. PRESENT EXERCISE IS DIRECTED NOT AGAINST AN
ENTIRE PEOPLE BUT ONLY AGAINST REBELS AND CODE OF
CONDUCT MUST THEREFORE BE FOLLOWED TO LETTER.

3. TODAY'S ARTICLE AND EDITORIAL FOLLOW YESTERDAY'S
FRONT PAGE EDITORIAL "LET US BY JUST" CALLING ON LAGOS
PEOPLE NOT TO IMPUTE EVIL INTENTIONS TO ALL IBO PEOPLE
IN THE FEDERATION EVEN IN FACE OF ACTS OF SABOTAGE IN
LAGOS ETC. YESTERDAY'S EDITORIAL IMPLORING PEOPLE NOT
TO ALLOW INCIDENTS OF SABOTAGE TO LEAD TO OUTBREAKS OF

VIOLENCE AGAINST IBOS IN GENERAL WHICH WOULD DRIVE INTO
QJUKWU'S ARMS THOSE IBOS WHO OPPOSE SECESSION. IT WOULD
BY UNJUST, EDITORIAL CONCLUDED, TO BLAME ACTIVITIES OF
FEW TERRORISTS ON HUNDREDS OF PEACEFUL LAW-ABIDING IBOS
NIGERIA.

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AF PP RUEHC
DE RUTANU 044GG 1881750
Info ZNR UUUUU
P R 071745Z JUL 67
SS FM AMCONSUL ENUGU
GPM TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY
SP INFO RUTALS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS
SC STATE GRNC
SAH BT
L UNCLAS ENUGU 044
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1967 JUL 7 PM 5 00

ENUGU 44

7-7-67

NSC ENUGU 039 COVERS HOSTILITIES TO THIS POINT. FOLLOWING IS
INR ADDITIONAL COLOR: CAPITAL CITY OF ENUGU REMAINED CALM
AID FOLLOWING LATE AFTERNOON ANNOUNCEMENT OF HOSTILITIES OVER
PC RADIO AND TELEVISION. MEANWHILE, CIVIL DEFENSE TEAMS HAVE
O TAKEN UP STATIONS AROUND GOVERNMENT INSTALLATIONS, MAJOR
SE HOTELS AND OTHER STRATEGIC BUILDINGS WITHIN THE CITY. TRAFFIC
OPR REMAINS NORMAL AND REGULARLY SCHEDULED RADIO AND TV PROGRAMS
RSR ARE CONTINUING AS USUAL, BROKEN ONLY BY HOURLY NEWSCASTS WHICH
RST REPEAT ESSENCE OF ORIGINAL DEFENSE MINISTRY BULLETIN ON THE

OUTBREAK OF HOSTILITIES.
MULVEHILL
BT

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3
INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State
POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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Action

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SECRET 0271 JUL 67 SGD HALLIGAN. DIA FOR DIACO. CINCSRIKE
FOR STRJ2-C DA FOR ACSI

1. DESPITE FACT SENIOR ARMY STAFF SOURCES QUERIED BY UK
DEFENSE ADVISOR ON 07 JULY ALLEGE GOWON HAD NOT YET GIVEN
WORD FOR INITIATION MIL ACTION AGAINST EAST, TWO SENIOR
NIGERIA POLICE SOURCES PERSONALLY PASSED INFO TO DATT AFTER
NOON 07 JULY WHICH AT DIRECT VARIANCE WITH WHAT ARMY SOURCES
ALLEGED TO HAVE SAID.

2. AT 1300 LOCAL TIME JULY 07 SENIOR EXPAT NIGERIA POLICE
COMMISSIONER L.A. MARSDEN (PROTECT SOURCE) TOLD DATT HE HAD
BEEN TOLD QUOTE BALLOON HAD GONE UP UNQUOTE. MERSDEN SAID
HE HAD BEEN TOLD FMR QUOTE HAD ALREADY INITIATED MIL ACTION
AGAINST EAST IN AREA NORTH NSUKKA UNQUOTE AND THAT OVERALL

PAGE 2 RUTALS 197CC SECRET

PLAN ENISIONED ATTACK ON CALABR AREA WOULD ALSO BE LAUNCHED
FOR PURPOSE REASSURING EASTERN MINORITY PEOPLE FMR DESIRE
CONTRIBUTE MATERIALLY THEIR EFFORTS ATTAIN STADEHOOD. DATT
DID NOT REPORT AT THAT TIME BECAUSE DETAILED QUESTIONING
MARSDEN LED DATT BELIEVE HIS INFO, WHICH FROM ANOTHER SOURCE
WITHIN POLICE SETUP, MIGHT BE QUESTIONABLE IN THAT HE DID NOT
SEEM TO KNOW DETAILS NSUKKA AREA ACTION OF 07 JULY.

3. AT 1500 LOCAL TIME DATT RAISED SUBJECT WITH MR.T. OMO
BARE, (PROTECT SOURCE) DEPUTY IG RPT IG NIGERIA POLICE,
MEMBER SUPREME MIL COUNCIL (SMC) WHO ATTENDS TWICE DAILY MEETINGS
(MORNING AND EVENING) OF SMC. (DATT'S RELATIONSHIP WITH OMO
BARE IS SUCH THAT IT PERMITS DETAILED QUESTIONING TO AVOID

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DEFENSE DEPT.

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MISTAKES IN TRANSLATION OR INTERPRETATION OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.) IN RESPONSE DETAILED QUESTIONING, OMO BARE SAID GOWON MADE DECISION LAUNCH MIL ACTION AGAINST EAST 06 JULY AHT THAT ACTION ON NORTHERN/EASTERN BORDERS ON 07 JULY DIRECT RESULT THIS DECISION. I TOLD OMO BARE WE QUOTE HAD HEARD UNQUOTE THERE ACTION THAT AREA YESTERDAY BUT THAT IT HAD BEEN TERMINATED. HE SAID QUOTE YES BUT IT WILL CONTINUE UNQUOTE.

PAGE 3 RUTALS 197CC S E C R E T

DATT'S LITERAL QUESTION TO HIM WAS QUOTE ARE YOU SURE THIS IT IT, THAT WORD HAD ACUTALLY BEEN GIVEN UNQUOTE. HIS ANSWER WAS AFFIRMATIVE BOTH QUESTIONS. HE SAID, FURTHER, QUOTE I HOPE IT NOT TOO LATE UNQUOTE.

4. DATT PUZZLED BY THIS INFORMATION WHICH NOT CONFIRMED ANY OTHER SOURCE TO CONFUSE CONFIRMATORY REPORTS SUCH AS THOSE MADE FROM ENUGU WHEN ACTIVITY INITIATED 07 JULY. IT HARD TO BELIEVE OMO-BARE COULD SIT AT MEETINGS SMC AND COMPLETELY MISREAD GOWON ON MATTER THIS SIGNIFICANCE. DATT CERTAIN, ALSO, OMO BARE ACTUALLY BELIEVES GOWON HAD GIVEN ORDER FOR MIL ACTION WHETHER, AS IT RUNS OUT, THIS IS SO OR NOT. OMO BARE SAID HE WOULD KEEP DATT READ IN ON SUBJECT AND GIVE DATT ANY CHANGE IN STATUS THIS AFFAIR. TWO POSSIBILITIES PRESENT THEMSELVES. ONE, OMO BARE

MISTAKEN. IF SO, IT SIGNIFICANT OF COURSE BUT, DATT BELIEVES, HONEST MISTAKE ALTHOUGH ONE MOST DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN. SECOND, OMO BARE NOT MISTAKEN. IF THIS SO, THEN TASK BECOMES DIFFICULT ONE TO EXPLAINING LACK CONFIRMATION AND ALLEGEDLY CONTRADICTORY INFO GIVEN UK DEFENSE ADVISOR THIS MORNING MY MIL FIGURES WHO MUST KNOW SCORE THIS MATTER. ANY NUMBER POSSIBILITIES PRESENT THEMSELVES HERE

PAGE 4 RUTALS 197CC S E C R E T

LIMIT AS BROAD AS IMAGINATION. ONE POSSIBILITY IS THAT GOWON HAS GIVEN WORD BUT THAT ACTUAL PLAN, OF WHICH OMO BARE VERY PROBABLY NOT AWARE, CALL FOR SEQUENCE ACTIVITIES WHICH STARTED WITH INITIATION ACTION 07 JULY TO BE FOLLOWED BY PATTERN NOT YET DISCERNABLE. DATT WILL QUERY MIL AND OTHER SOURCES OF HIS OWN THIS EVENING TO ATTEMPT SORT THIS ONE OUT. FRANKLY, HOWEVER, EVEN GHOUGH VERY LARGE ELEMENT OF DOUBT EXISTS AS TO ACCURACY INFO, DATT, BECAUSE OF ACCESS AND PLACEMENT OF SOURCE OMO BARE, DID NOT DARE NOT REPORT INFO AS PASSED.

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NOTE: PASSED S/S-O 7-7-67 2:15 p.m.

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37
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Department of State

POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

DEF 19-8 US-NIGERIA

DEF 19 US-THE CONGO

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RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY LONDON
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S E C R E T LAGOS 340

LINDIS

REF: LAGOS 289

1. IN ONE HOUR TALK WITH GOWON (OGBU ALSO PRESENT) I FOUND HIM MURT, DISILLUSIONED AND DEPRESSED BY ATTITUDE USG TOWARD NIGERIAN SITUATION. HE SAID THAT PROMPT USG STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR AND PROVISION OF AIRCRAFT TO CONGO (K) GOVT HAD BROUGHT HOME TO HIM AS NOTHING ELSE COULD DISINTEREST OF USG IN NIGERIA AND FMG EFFORTS MAINTAIN INTEGRITY OF COUNTRY.
2. GOWON STATED IN SORROW RATHER THAN ANGER THAT

PAGE 2 RUTALS 340CC S E C R E T
USG HAD BROKEN CONFIDENCE WITH FMG BY TELLING PRESS FMG HAD RECENTLY REQUESTED ARMS FROM US. MOREOVER, BASED ON BBC REPORT HE HAD HEARD, STATE DEPT SPOKESMAN HAD DISTORTED SITUATION BY SAYING FMG HAD REQUESTED MILITARY ASSISTANCE WHEN FMG HAD ONLY REQUESTED RIGHT TO BUY ARMS. I POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS BBC REPORT WHICH HAD DISTORTED SITUATION AS DEPT SPOKESMAN HAD NOT USED TERM QUOTE MILITARY ASSISTANCE UNQUOTE. (IN FACT, PERTINENT QUESTION AND ANSWERS GIVEN IN STATE 4022 LEFT NATURE OF FMG APPROACH UNCLEAR AND PRESS COULD EASILY HAVE ASSUMED FMG REQUEST SIMILAR TO CONGO REQUEST. AS REPORTED LAGOS 323, FMG HAS ALREADY

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By MNA Date 10/5/05

S E C R E T

-2--LAGOS 340 JULY 11

ISSUED CLARIFYING STATEMENT FROM ITS POINT OF VIEW. IT WOULD HELP IF DEPT SPOKESMAN COULD CONFIRM THAT FMG REQUEST WAS FOR PERMISSION TO BUY ARMS, NOT FOR ASSISTANCE.)

3. GOWON ALSO REFERRED TO VOA WHICH HE SAID IN RARE USE OF SARACASM EVENLY BALANCED REPORTS FROM BIAFRAN SOURCES WITH THOSE FROM FMG SOURCES.

4. GOWON COMMENTED HE LEARNING FAST ABOUT INTERNATIONAL POLITICS. AS SOLDIER VNHAD THOUGHT FRIENDS WERE FRIS HE AND MOST OTHER NIGERIANS HAD CONSIDERED HMG AND USG

PAGE 3 RUTALS 340CVCS E C R E T
AS NIGERIA'S BEST FRIENDS AND HAD ASSUMED THESE FRIENDS WOULD SUPPORT LEGITIMATE GOVT OF NIGERIA IN TIME OF NEED. EVENTS HAD SHOWN OTHERWISE.

5. REVERTING TO ARMS SUPPLY GOWON OBSERVED THAT OJUKWU WAS ABLE GET ARMS FOR REBELLION BUT FMG ALTHOUGH LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT WAS REBUFFED ON ALL SIDES WHEN IT SOUGHT ARMS TO PRESERVE INTEGRITY OF COUNTRY. HE SAID FMG WOULD HAVE TO GET ARMS THROUGH QUOTE BACK DOOR UNQUOTE. HE MAY HAVE HAD CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN MIND AS OJUKWU HAS CZECH ARMS, BUT I BELIEVE HE WAS REFERRING TO ILLICIT ARMS MARKET.

6. I EMPHASIZED CORRECT ATTITUDE OF USG TOWARD NIGERIAN SITUATION AND BACKGROUND OF US RELUCTANCE SUPPLY ARMS TO EIGHTER PARTY IN INTERNAL DISPUTE. RE CONGO, I POINTED OUT USG ALREADY INVOLVED THERE AND THAT RECENT REBELLION SPARKED BY MERCENARIES (GOWON REMARKED OJUKWU HAD MERCENARIES TOO). I ALSO CITED VARIOUS USG ACTIONS TO COOPERATE WITH AND ASSIST FMG. ALL OF THIS LEFT GOWON UNMOVED.

7. AS REPORTED LAGOS 329, GOWON REACTED NEGATIVELY TO MY

PAGE 4 RUTALS 340CC SNI C R E T
REQUEST FOR

PERMISSION SEND FARRELL LINE CARGO VESSEL INTO PORT HARCOURT TO PICK UP EVACUEES. HE AGONIZED OVER PROBLEM AND WE DISCUSSED PROS AND CONS FOR SOME TIME. HIS PRINCIPAL POINTS WERE (A) MEN SHOULD HAVE LEFT WITH WOMEN AND CHILDREN, (B) HE COULD NOT MAKE EXCEPTION TO TOTAL EMBARGO

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-3- LAGOS 340 JULY 11

ON SHIPPING WHICH HE HAD JUST DECLARED WITHOUT GIVING PROPAGANDA ADVANTAGE TO OJUKWU AND (C) IF HE MADE EXCEPTION FOR USG, OTHER COUNTRIES WOULD DEMAND SAME TREATMENT AND HIS QUOTE PLANS UNQUOTE MIGHT BE DISRUPTED FOR INDETERMINATE TIME. RE LAST POINT HE CITED CASE OF AIRLIFT FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN WHICH HE HAD ORIGINALLY APPROVED FOR ONE DAY BUT WHICH HE HAD HAD TO ALLOW TO CONTINUE FOR WEEK. HE REMARKED SADLY AT ONE POINT THAT HE HAD ALWAYS TRIED TO BE REASONABLE AND HELPFUL, BUT IT DID NOT SEEM TO PAY. HE FINALLY SAID THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT HIS MILITARY COLLEAGUES BEFORE GIVING ME FINAL ANSWER WHICH WOULD BE FORTHCOMING LATE TODAY OR TOMORROW. AS HIS COLLEAGUES ARE PROBABLY EVEN MORE DISENCHANTED WITH US THAN GOWON, PROSPECTS ARE NOT GOOD.

PAGE 5 RUTALS 340CC S E C R E T

8. I MUST AGAIN WARN DEPT THAT USG-FMG RELATIONS CAN DETERIORATE RAPIDLY UNLESS WE DO SOMETHING TO ARREST PRESENT TREND. WE SHOULD NOT MISCLEAD OURSELVES BY THINKING WE ARE ONLY ALIENATING NORTHERNERS -- ALTHOUGH 20 MILLION PLUS NORTHERNERS ARE NOT TO BE DISREGARDED. EVEN THOUGH WESTERNERS AND MID-WESTERNERS ARE NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT MILITARY ACTION AGAINST EAST, THEY TOO ARE WATCHING US ROLE WITH CRITICAL EYE. I URGE DEPT TO MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR FMG (LAST PARAGRAPH REFTEL).

9. I HAVE JUST SEEN USIS NEWSFILE FOR JULY 10 WHICH IS AF41 LIBERALLY USES TERM "MILITARY ASSISTANCE" AND ATTRIBUTES WORDS TO MCCLOSKEY. MY CREDIBILITY WITH GOWON IS NOW IN QUESTION SINCE I BASED MY COMMENT TO HIM (UDE PARAGRAPH 2) ON VERSION OF MCCLOSKEY'S COMMENTS *CONTACTED*
STATE 4022. MATHEWS
BT

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S E C R E T

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By	MM NARA Date 10/5/05

AF/AFCW:HvanOss:lsr
(Drafting Office and Officer)
6/27/67

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: June 21, 1967

SUBJECT: General Discussion on Middle-East, Nigeria, AID and President Ahidjo's Visit

PARTICIPANTS: His Excellency, Joseph N. OWONO, Ambassador of the Republic of Cameroon

The Honorable Joseph Palmer 2nd, Assistant Secretary
Hendrik van Oss, Country Director

COPIES TO: AF (2)
AFCW (3)
NEA
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AID/AFR/RUA

Amembassies YAOUNDE
LAGOS
Amconsul ENUGU

A. MIDDLE EAST

After the opening amenities, Mr. Palmer led off by bringing up in general terms the great concern which the United States Government has over the Middle East situation. First we had tried to prevent the outbreak of hostilities; then, after fighting had started we tried to stop it as quickly as possible. We are now in the third phase of trying to prevent a resurgence of violence and bring about a more viable peace in the area. Mr. Palmer referred to the five points set forth in President Johnson's speech of June 19 and repeated by Ambassador Goldberg at the UN. He expressed the hope that Cameroon and other African countries would take our views into account, just as we would their opinions. He hoped the African delegates would carefully weigh the relative merits of each position before committing themselves. He pointed out that the Soviet resolution does not offer any permanent solution and, in the words of Ambassador Goldberg, would simply run the film backward through the projector, restoring the same state of affairs which had brought about hostilities in the first place. Something must be done to assure the security of every state in the area, and the USG has consistently supported the political integrity of all countries. However, one must take into account the fact that the actions of the Egyptians in blocking the Gulf of Aqaba, and of the Syrians in making terrorist raids across the Israeli border and in shelling Israeli installations from the heights of Galilee all played a part in bringing matters to a head. It would thus be unrealistic to expect Israel to agree to withdraw its troops first and negotiate later.

FORM DS-1254

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By

MMARA Date

VND 959503
10/5/00

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PL 27 BIRFA NIGERIA

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Info ZNY CCCCC
SS R 051625Z JUN 67
GEM FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
SP TO RUEHC/SECSATATE WASHDC
SC INFO RUQSFE/AMCONSUL ASMARA
SAH RUTANU/AMEMBASSY ENUGU
L RUTALS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS
H RUDAND/AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
EUR RUDTCR/AMEMBASSY MASERU
IO RUEHDT/USUN NY
BT STATE GRNC

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6/5/67
Addis Ababa 4361

P C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 4361

USIA

NSC REF ADDIS 4325 PL 27 B-N

INR

CIA 1. OAU ANNOUNCED JUNE 3 LESOTHO CHIEF JONATHUI MESSAGED SEC GEN
NSA DIALLO TELLI ASKING LATTER QTE REQUEST ALL PARTIES EXERCISE WISDOM
AND RESTRAINT TO REFRAIN FROM USE OF FORCE UNQTE. JONATHAN ALSO

DOD QTE SUGGESTED UNQTE EMERGENCY SESSION OAU.

AID 2. ASST SEC GEN SAHNOUN TOLD EMBOFF JUNE 5 SECRETARIAT TAKING NO STEPS
PC CONVE MEETING SINCE NO AFRICAN STATE HAS FORMALLY REQUESTED ACTION.

SR SAHNOUN ALSO STATED DIALLO HAD INFORMED GON OF MESSAGE FROM LESOTHO

ORM BUT DIALLO NOT PLANNING ANY PERSONAL INITIATIVE NIGERIAN SITUATION SINCE
GOWON SPECIFICALLY ASKED NO INTERVENTION (REFTEL).

OPR

KORRY

RSR BT

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By MVA Date 10/5/05

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BL27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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Action

RR RUDAND RUEHC RUEHDT
DE RUQSDA 4325Z 1521640

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Info

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SS

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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC
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C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 4325

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SUBJECT: NIGERIA

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Addis Ababa

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1. OAU SEC GEN DIALLO TELLI ANNOUNCED JUNE 2 HE HAD TRANSMITTED TO ALL OAU MEMBER STATES MESSAGE FROM GOWON QUOTED IN LAGOS 9597 (NOTAL).

2. ASST SEC GEN SAHNOUN TOLD EMBOFF JUNE 2 OAU SECRETARIAT TAKING EXTRA PRECAUTIONS TO AVOID DOING OR SAYING ANYTHING LIKELY TO OFFEND HYPER-SENSITIVE NIGERIANS. SI TUATION, HE SAID, DEMANDS CLOSE WATCHING FOR TIME BEING, BUT PRESSURE FROM OTHER OAU MEMBERS TO CONVEENE EMERGENCY FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE WILL MOUNT RAPIDLY IF CONDITIONS WITHIN NIGERIA DETERIORATE MUCH FURTHER TOWARD CIVIL WAR. ATTITUDE OF CAMEROON, NEIGHBOR MOST DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS, OF PARTICULAR INTEREST, AND IT MAY BE THAT STATE WHICH WILL INITIATE REQUEST FOR ACTIVE OAU CONSIDERATION OF NIGERIAN PROBLEM.

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MAY BE OF INTEREST TO ADDRESSEES THAT NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR SULE KOLO, IN CONVERSATION WITH FOSTER JUNE 1, TOOK LINE THAT WHILE EASTERN NIGERIA'S SECESSION MOVEMENT WAS DISTURBING DEVELOPMENT, PRESS REPORTS WERE EXAGGERATING ITS POPULAR SUPPORT. SULE KOLO CLAIMED ONLY TWO OR THREE MILLION EASTERN NIGERIANS BACKED SECESSION AND THAT THESE DID NOT INCLUDE INHABITANTS WESTERN PORTION OF EASTERN NIGERIA WHERE PORTIONS OF IMPORTANT OIL FIELDS LOCATED. SULE KOLO EXPLAINED THAT PLAN FOR DIVISION OF NIGERIA INTO TWELVE STATES HAD BEEN FORMULATED SOME TIME AGO AS SOLUTION PROBLEMS POSED BY PREDOMINANCE OF NORTH.

GP-3 TUBBY

BT

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POL 27 BIAFRA NIGERIA
XPOL 15-145/JOHNSON 200156

OUT-GOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

SECRET

Classification

Origin
Info:

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

STATE 205156

EXDIS

Following is text message dated May 30 from Gowon to President:

QUOTE The President, the White House

You are no doubt aware of the problems which Nigeria has faced since the events of 1966, I have communicated with you in the past of the efforts which my government was making to achieve a peaceful solution of these problems. Unfortunately, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ our efforts have not resulted in the success that we ~~XX~~ all hoped for.

As a result of the intransigence of the Military Governor of Eastern Nigeria, Lt. Col. Odumegwu Ojukwu, all the concessions I have made have been rebuffed. The final effort was that of the conciliation committee composed of eminent Nigerians from all parts of the country which submitted recommendations after consulting the Military Governor of Eastern Nigeria and myself.

Drafted by:

S/S:RLBruce:jmj 5/31/67

Tel. Ext.
5381

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

S/S - Mr. Thompson

Clearances:

LVWH - Mr. Smith

SECRET

FORM
8-65 DS-322

Classification

0680

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Authority VND 954503
By MNA Date 10/5/05

Page 2 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS

SECRET-EXDIS
Classification

I had no hesitation in accepting the Committee's recommendations and putting them into effect in the expectation that the Eastern Governor would reciprocate in the interest of the nation.

Lt. Col. Ojukwu's intransigence has culminated in his declaration of the so-called independent Republic of Biafra. Under the present constitution of Nigeria, such declaration is illegal and unconstitutional. It is of no effect and can only be regarded as an act of rebellion. My government is, therefore, taking steps to contain this rebellion.

May I repeat my appeal to you to refrain from doing anything that will impair the corporate existence, sovereignty, and integrity of the ^{Republic} Federal of Nigeria. I hardly need to add that any attempt at recognition of the so-called Republic of Biafra as sovereign state will amount to interference in the internal affairs of my country and ~~X~~ will be regarded as an unfriendly act.

I trust that in furtherance of the very good relations between our two countries I can rely on ~~X~~ Your Majesty/Excellency's continued cooperation and sympathy.

Highest consideration,

Lt. Col. Yakubu Gowon, ~~XXXX~~ Head of the
Federal Military Government, Commander-
in Chief of the Armed Forces of the

Federal Republic of Nigeria UNQUOTE

SECRET
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O		SUBJECT Msg to Pres from Gowon, 5/30	
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Pol 27 Biafra - Nigeria

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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2847
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RUEHCR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA 88
RUTALS/AMEMBASSY LAGOS 86
RUTAND AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE 6
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1. MEDIA GIVING PROMINENT PLAY TO NIGERIAN AMB HAASTRUP PRESS CONFERENCE MAY 22 IN WHICH HE PRAISED ETHIOPIA'S EFFORTS TO SAVE UNITY WHILE EMPHASIZING GON " WOULD NOT WELCOME OR TOLERATE ANY OUTSIDE INTERVENTION COUNTRY'S CURRENT CRISIS.

2. MEDIA ALSO PLAYED MAY 17 PALACE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT GHANIAN AMB DEBRAH DELIVERED ANKRAH MESSAGE AND THAT HIM TOLD DEBRAH HE WOULD USE HIS GOOD OFFICES TO ACHIEVE PEACEFUL SOLUTION NIGERIAN CRISIS AND WOULD SEND MESSAGE ANKRAH ASSURING HIS CONTINUED EFFORTS.

3. COMMENT: DEBRAH INFORMS US NO SUCH IMPERIAL STATEMENTS MADE TO HIM.

KORRY

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PL 27 BIERA-NIGERIA

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FM

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC

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RUEHCR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA

RUDTICR

AMDMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

RUTALS

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

RUDTICR

AMSDBASSY LONDON

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BT

CONFIDENTIAL ADDIS ABABA 3859

1. EX-HEAD OF CHANCERY OF NIGERIAN EMB FRED ENWONWU, PAID PARTING

CALL ON EMROFF PRIOR DEPARTURE TOMORROW FOR EASTERN NIGERIA VIA PARIS AND DUALA. HE WAS PRECEDED THIS MORNING BY EX-FIRST SECRETARY S.H.O. IRE WHO TAKING SIMILAR ROUTE TO IBO-LAND. SIMILARLY, IBO OFFICER OF OAH LIBERATION COMMITTEE DAR ES SALAAM, HYACINTH UGWU PLANS LEAVE DAR FOR ENUGU TOMORROW.

2. ACCORDING ENWONWU ALL IBOS IN NIGERIA FOREIGN SERVICE HAVE BEEN

QIS RECALLED UNQTE BUT THAT NONE IN FACT DARES SET FOOT THERE. APPARENTLY ALL HAVE BEEN OR WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE PUT ON EASTERN GOVERNMENT PAYROLL. YORUBAS AND HAUSAS BEING SENT FROM LAGOS TO REPLACE IBOS.

3. VISIBLY EMOTIONAL, ENWONWU PAID TWO WEEK VISIT TO EASTERN REGION

ENDING APRIL 1, PRESUMABLY TO ARRANGE HIS FUTURE. SAID EAST IS EMOTIONALLY CHARGED TO PIINT WHERE, IN HIS VIEW, OJUKWU MAY HAVE DIFFICULTY CONTROLLING HIS MILITARY FOR MORE THAN FEW MORE WEEKS.

KORRY

RSR

*ADDIS ABABA 3859
4/27/67*

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